

The Official Community Newsletter for Collin College



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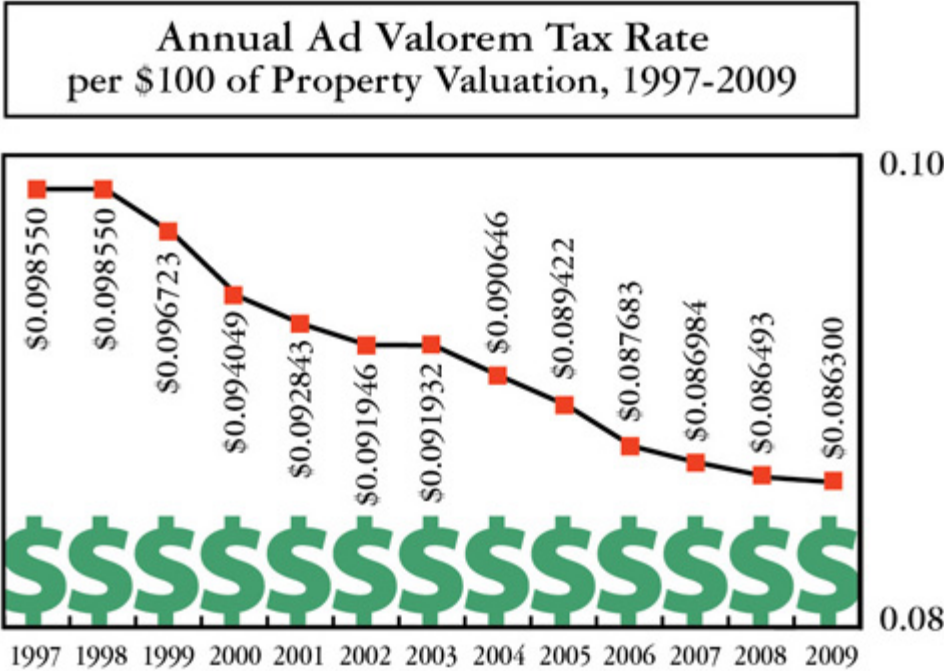
## Collin College Issues Second Report Card

One year ago, Collin College published its first report card. We now present an updated report card to show progress over the past year.

While Collin College excels in many indicators, there is yet a measure that is similar to the state average: course completion. Because Academic Excellence is one of our core values, “average” does not meet our standard for a superior college education, so initiatives are now in place to improve these outcomes.

Collin College applauds the Texas Legislature for its new accountability system requiring colleges and universities to post an institutional resume, much like our report card. When this system debuts on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board website, Texans will be able to see a report card for all public institutions.

The Collin College Board of Trustees is dedicated to continuous improvement to ensure the finest education for our students.



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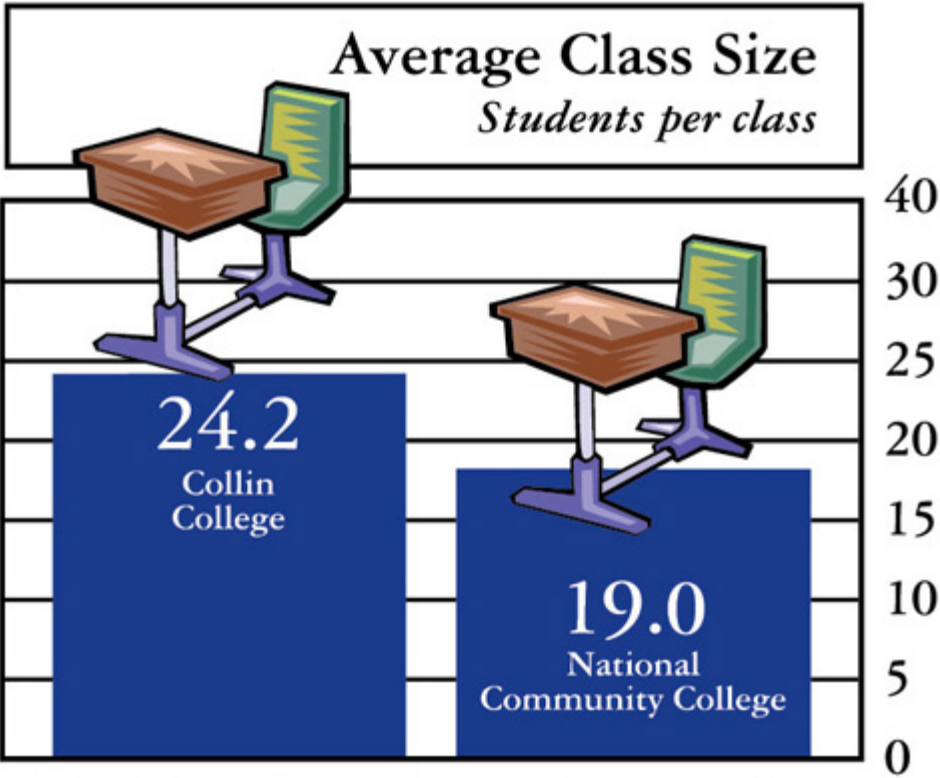
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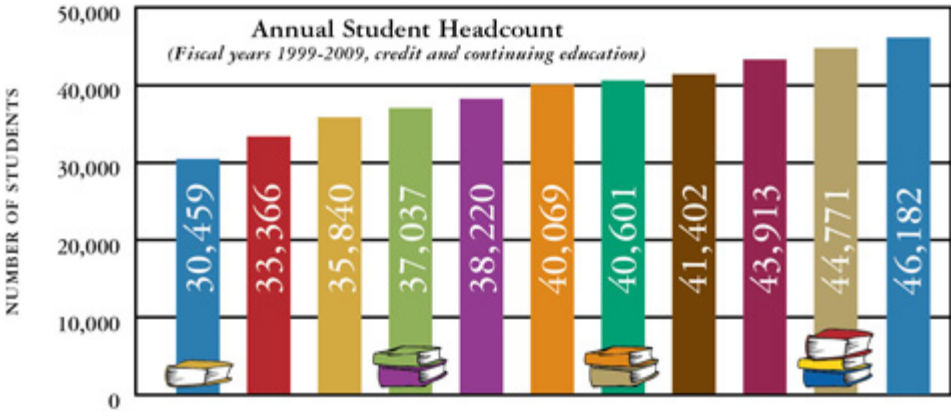
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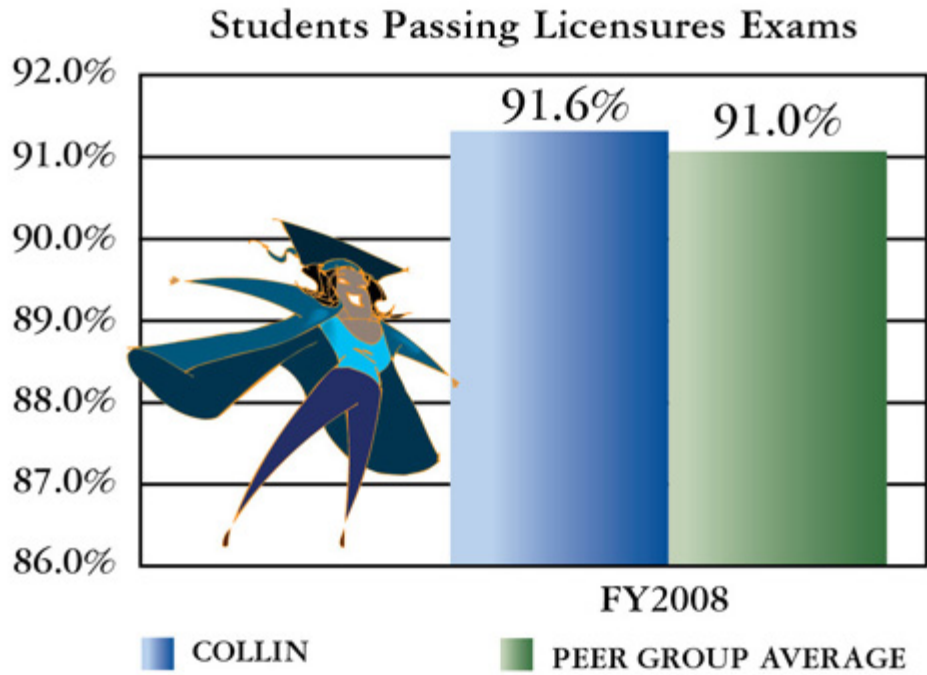
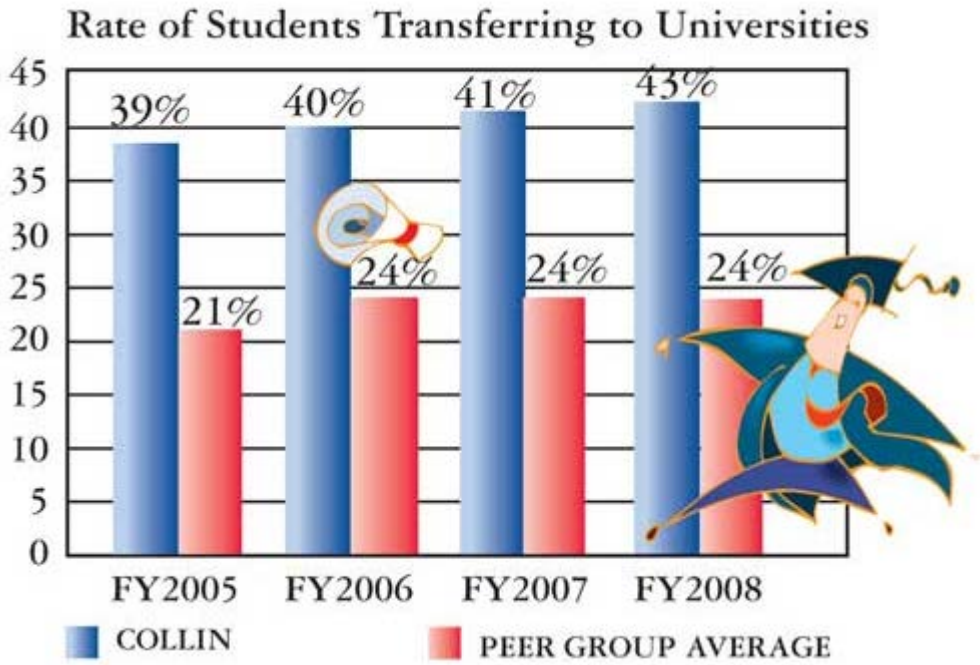


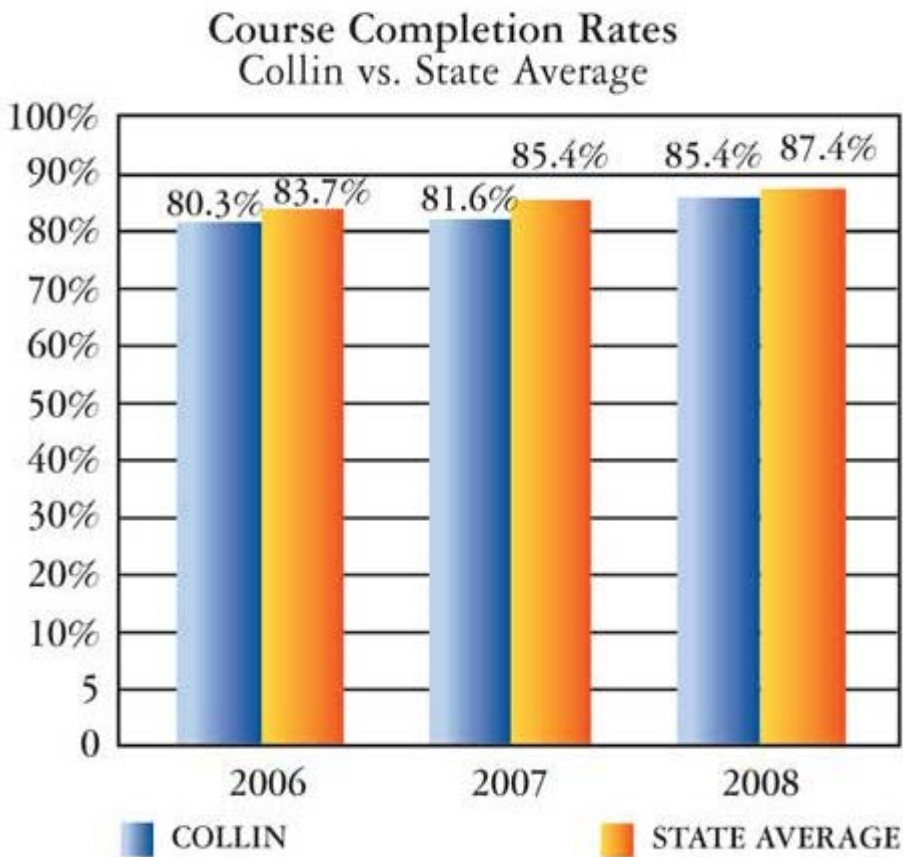
Note: National average from 2005 Community College Benchmark Survey,

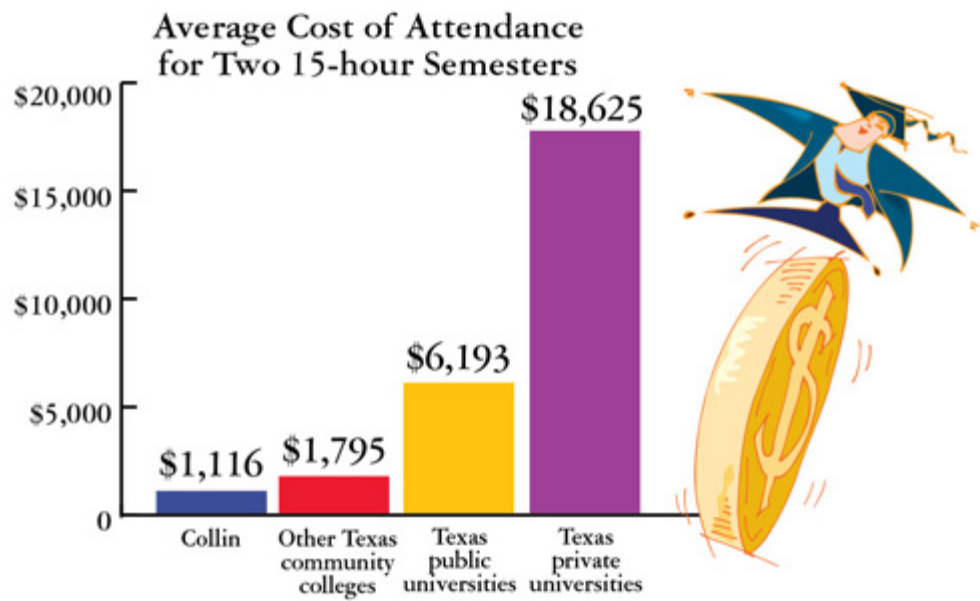
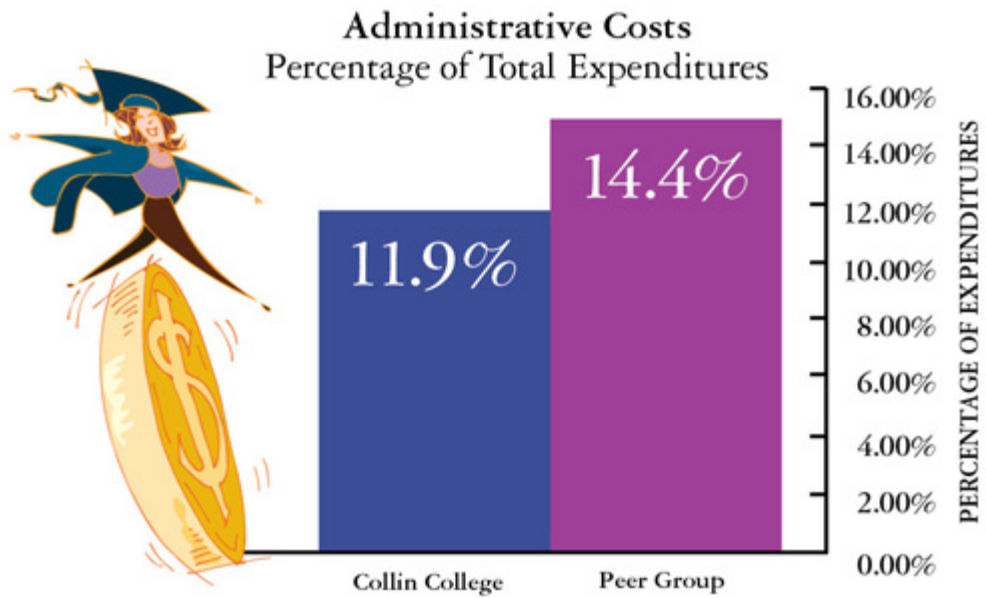


**CONTRACT TRAINING**  
40 companies served in 2008

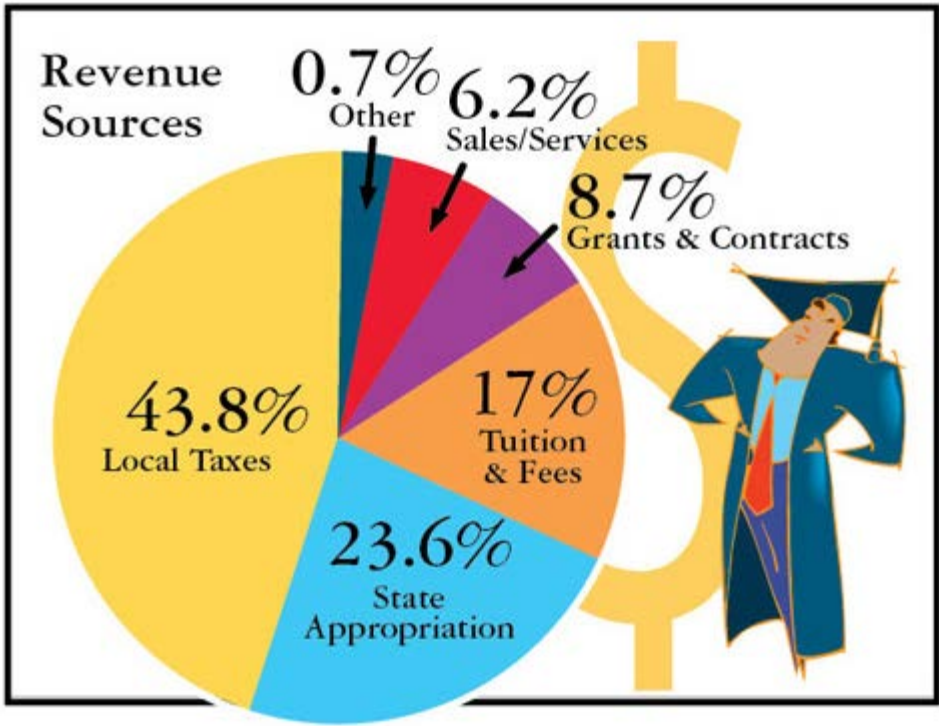
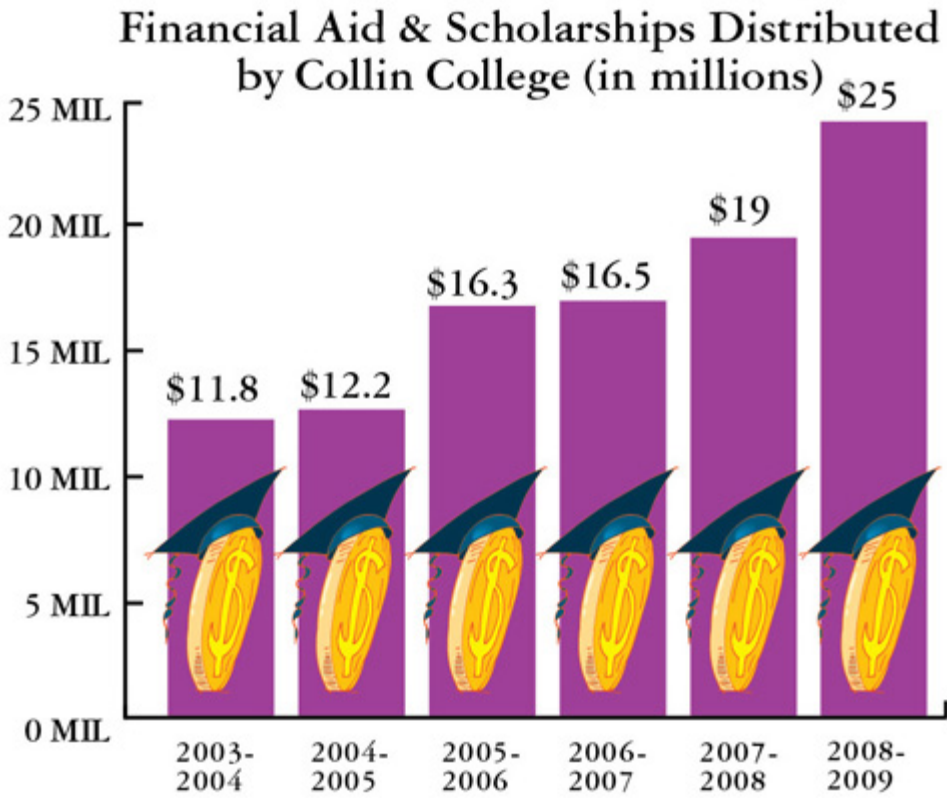
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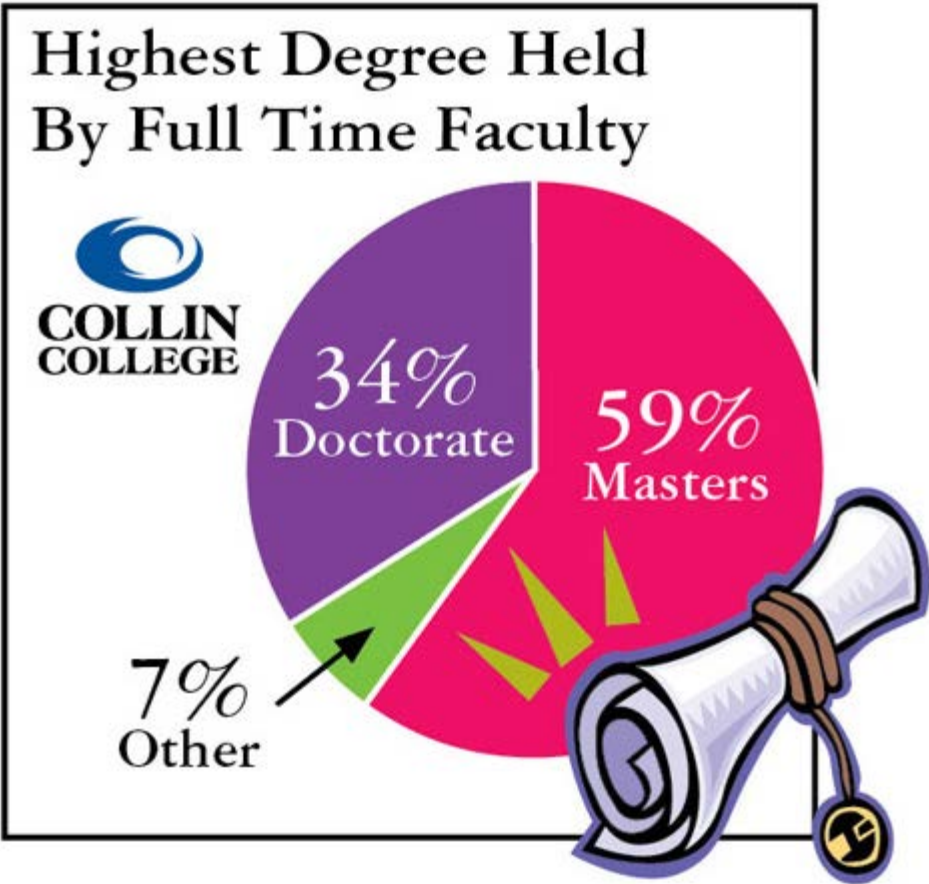












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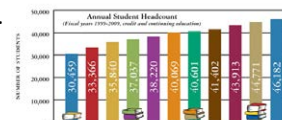
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[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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Nicholas Palmer was planning to become a professional musician, but his path from oboe player to lawyer intercepted a particular class at Collin College. After that class, Palmer chose law and never turned back. Today he is an attorney clerking for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, in the chambers of Judge Jane Boyle.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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The state of Texas recently honored the Collin College nursing program as one of Texas' best in terms of graduation and licensure rates.

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Did you know?

Collin College is celebrating its silver anniversary, so in this issue of Did You Know compares statistics from the college's inception to today.

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**Connection,**

## College unveils partners, programs for university center

In January of 2010, the landscape of higher education in Collin County will change dramatically.

Collin College will open the doors to the Collin Higher Education Center for the spring semester partnering with a number of universities to provide bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at 3452 Spur 399 in McKinney.



*Collin Higher Education Center: Opening January 2010*

The facility will meet the educational and workforce needs facing the state and nation and provide a convenient means for Collin County residents to further their education in their own backyard.

The partners and degrees in this first phase will include:

**Dallas Baptist University** Bachelor of Arts and Science – Communication, Master of Arts – Management with Human Resource concentration, Master of Arts – Professional Development (Leadership Studies), Master of Arts – Teaching

**Texas A&M University-Commerce** Bachelor of Science – Psychology, Bachelor of Science – Interdisciplinary Studies (Elementary Education), Bachelor of Arts – Spanish, Master of Science/Education – Counseling, Master of Education – Curriculum and Instruction

**Texas Woman's University** Bachelor of Science – Child Development, Bachelor of Science – Math (with teacher certification), Bachelor of Science – Nursing (RN to BSN), Master of Education – Administration (Education), Master of Education – Special Education

**The University of Texas at Dallas** Bachelor of Science – Business Administration, Bachelor of Science – Accounting and Information Management, Bachelor of Science – Computer Science, Bachelor of Arts – Criminology Master of Business Administration, Master of Science – Accounting and Information Management

### University of North Texas

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences, Master of Education – Higher Education, Master of Science – Engineering Systems, Ph.D./Ed.D. – Higher Education. Ed.D. – Educational Administration

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What classes at Collin College will prepare me for the up coming programs?

Collin College offers freshman and sophomore courses that will transfer into bachelor's programs offered at the CHEC partner universities. Freshman and sophomore courses are not available at the Collin Higher Education Center, but are taught at the Central Park, Preston Ridge, and Spring Creek campuses as well as the Courtyard Center.

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Will I pay Collin College tuition for courses at the Collin Higher Education Center?

Degree programs at the Collin Higher Education Center will be offered through select Texas universities. Students will follow all university policies and procedures, including admission criteria, tuition and fee rates.

Is Collin College now a 4-year college?

Collin College will continue to be a community college. Degree programs at the Collin Higher Education Center will be offered through Texas universities. Students attending will be enrolled in and graduate from the university offering the bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree at the Collin Higher Education Center location.

For more information, call 972.599.3100.

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## Collin College lowers/freezes costs

The economic crisis has taken a heavy toll on all walks of life. However, students at Collin College will soon see a welcome sight on the horizon as they plan for spring semester—lower fees.

The Collin College Board of Trustees voted on Aug. 25 to decrease the building use fee by \$3 per credit hour, effective spring 2010. That reduces the total student cost for tuition and fees to \$34 per credit hour for those who live in Collin County—an overall reduction of roughly 8 percent. Total costs for students who live outside of Collin County or out-of-state/ out-of-country will be frozen at \$61 and \$116 per credit hour, respectively.

Tuition & Fee Comparison

In County Resident	Before	After
Per Hour Tuition	\$27	\$27
Building Use Fee	\$9	\$6
Student Life Fee	\$1	\$1
Total per hour	\$37	\$34

“We want to keep a Collin education as affordable and accessible as possible to anyone who desires a college education,” said Dr. Bob Collins, Board of Trustees chair and founding board member. “This reduction in fees helps to relieve the impact of the economic downturn on our students and reduce their costs for acquiring a top-notch education.”

It is not the first time the college has made a move to control costs for students and taxpayers. 2010 will be the fourth straight year that the college has frozen in-county tuition. Also, this will be the 11th year in a row that taxpayers will see a lower local property tax rate for the college.

Cary Israel, the president of Collin College, said, “Thanks to the foresight and leadership of our trustees, this college began consolidating and centralizing functions years ago to lower administrative costs. These efficiencies allowed us to reduce fees at a crucial time when so many individuals are struggling financially.”

In addition, Israel said state legislators and the governor showed tremendous support for higher education in the recent legislative session. “They came through with much needed state appropriations, and we are highly appreciative of their efforts,” said Israel.

For information on Collin College tuition and fees, visit [www.ccccd.edu/gettingstarted/bursar/tuition.html](http://www.ccccd.edu/gettingstarted/bursar/tuition.html)

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Scott Michael Foster. Photo:  
ABC Family

#### Before *Greek*

Before moving to L.A. and landing a leading role in *Greek*, Foster performed in the production *Baby* at Collin College and took Acting I, Voice and Diction and Acting III : Improvisation at the college.

"Peg Waldschmidt, my high school director, was always talking about Collin College. We saw shows there and went to auditions. I saw *Clockwork Orange* with [Brian Smith](#) [a former Collin College student now playing a leading role in *Stargate Universe*]. I learned a lot from the classes I took at Collin College. I had an amazing time at the college," Foster said.

Foster's acting career includes *Teenage Dirtbag*; *The Horrible Flowers*; *Forever Charlie*; *Quarterlife*, a web series with Marshall Herskovitz and Edward Zwick, and appearances in various, national commercials. When he is not acting he is singing, playing guitar or writing and recording songs for his band *Siren's Eye*.

#### Behind the Scenes

Foster does not want to follow in any other actor's footsteps. He wants to make a name for himself. However, he does admire the work of Morgan Freeman, Danny Glover and Gary Oldman.

"I watch these actors do fantastic work. Maybe it is the fact that they are so real and have moved you before. It looks easy because they are professionals. On *Greek*, I do what comes naturally, and we have amazing directors. Last season Fred Savage directed an episode. It was awesome," Foster said.

*"I have seen so many amazing people come out of Collin College and do fantastic things; there is proof of its success."*

Foster typically works 12-14 hour days and admits it is exhausting, but his passion for acting drives him onward.

"You've already memorized your lines and get on the set to rehearse. You have to bring life to these words. You still have to bring so much to the table to make it real. A good 15 percent is ad-libbed. We have a real cohesive group; the director, writers and actors all work together for the same goal," Foster said.

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Defining Success

For Foster, success is attained by hard work and is proven by repeatedly hitting the mark, something he believes the [Collin Theatre Center](#) has achieved.

“For me, it was a great experience because I had seen so many plays there, and I knew what I could be a part of. If you really want to be part of an amazing theatrical program, go see the plays and get excited about joining. I have seen so many amazing people come out of Collin College and do fantastic things; there is proof of its success,” Foster said.

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*Nicholas Palmer*

Nicholas Palmer was planning to become a professional musician, but his path from oboe player to lawyer intercepted a particular class at Collin College. After that class, Palmer chose law and never turned back. Today he is an attorney clerking for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas, in the chambers of Judge Jane Boyle.

"Collin College caused law school for me. I was going to be a music major. Professors Tracey McKenzie and Wendy Gunderson helped me to think differently. Collin College was the turning point at which I began to think analytically," Palmer said.

Palmer took a learning communities class that integrated sociology, history and government. He recalls discussing *Roe v. Wade* and the Supreme Court ruling.

*"In law school people were afraid of the Socratic Method, but I was comfortable because of the debate at Collin College."*

"It was an open forum with lots of diverse opinions, and it got heated, but that excited me and reaffirmed that law was the direction I wanted to go into. Professor McKenzie taught me to have Collin College graduate works in U.S. district court an opinion, know why and be able to back it up. In law school people were afraid of the Socratic Method, but I was comfortable because of the debate at Collin College," Palmer said.

Palmer graduated cum laude with an Associate of Arts degree from Collin College, magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from the University of North Texas, and he was a member of the Woolsack Honor Society upon graduation from Penn State University.

Palmer says he became a different type of student at Collin College, and he took his new skills with him as he continued to earn degrees and work in the court system. According to Palmer, a federal clerkship is a coveted position for law school graduates.



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“I consider myself lucky to have received one. Three of us from my graduating class received federal clerkships. We had nearly 200 graduates, just from my school, and many more students applied for the clerkships. This job opens a lot of doors in the legal community. I love it; I apply analytical skills on a daily basis,” Palmer said.

According to Palmer, law clerks read briefs, assist judges in research and write the initial draft of court orders. All district judges preside over criminal and civil cases. Palmer has seen a variety of cases ranging from drug trafficking and illegal reentry to copyright, trademarks and patent infringements.

Palmer refers to himself as a Supreme Court and a Constitution junkie.

“Federal judges are selected by the president and appointed for life, unless they are impeached which is rare. It is nice for me to get to work with one of those judges. Congress makes the law on a broad policy basis, the executive branch enforces the law, but the judiciary is where people go when they feel wronged under the law. It is personal. As a lawyer, I want to be a public servant, and I feel most fulfilled in the judiciary. I know that I am serving not just the government but the public that the government stands for,” said Palmer who hopes to become a federal judge and a law school professor.

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### Texas Top Three

The state of Texas recently honored the Collin College nursing program as one of **Texas' best** in terms of graduation and licensure rates. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board awarded \$25,000 grants to Collin College, Stephen F. Austin State University and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for achieving graduation and licensure rates of 85 percent or above and by demonstrating best practices that can be replicated by other colleges. Collin College's graduation rate was 90 percent and the pass rate on the licensure exam was 93.68 percent!

### Academy of Nursing Education Fellow

**Dr. Nell Ard**, a professor who directs the nursing program at Collin College, has been inducted into the National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education. She joins the prestigious academy's 65 fellows representing nursing schools and programs throughout the United States.

### Exemplary Rating

For the second consecutive year, Collin College's nursing program was designated "**exemplary**" by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, along with the college's programs in real estate and child development.



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**Cougar News July I  
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**Connection Summer  
2010**  
Vol. 7 Issue 3

**Connection,**

## Did you know?

Collin College is celebrating its silver anniversary, so in this issue of Did You Know compares statistics from the college's inception to today.

### Student Enrollment

1986	5,095
2009	46,182

### Number of Classes

1986	634
2009	7,460

### Budget

1985-86	\$6,051,475
2009	\$164,444,958

### Number of Employees

1985	22
2009	2,600

### Energy Costs

1986	\$109,591
2009	\$3,135,205

### Tuition and Fees

1985	\$10 per credit hour
2009	\$37 per credit hour

### Tax Rate (per hundred dollar valuation)

1985	\$0.080000
2009	\$0.086300

[[PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION](#)]



**Winter/Spring 2009 - 2010**

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**Connection Special Edition Summer 2009**

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Auteur Film Series explores (In)Justice in cinema
Fall registration continues; payment deadline looms for early registration
Campus Dates
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Top six in-demand careers
Book Review: 'When The Emperor Was Divine'
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### Auteur Film Series explores (In)Justice in cinema

As always, the Auteur Film Series is free and open to the public.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Fall registration continues; payment deadline looms for early registration

Classes begin Monday, Aug. 23. Get registered and paid up.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

### Campus Dates

August is a time for those back-to-school sales and a tasty schedule of upcoming events.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Quick Facts

Financial aid: The need is always growing.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



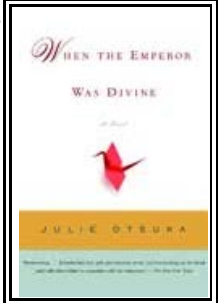
### Top six in-demand careers

Getting started in the top in-demand careers while at Collin College.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Book Review: 'When The Emperor Was Divine'

A review of this year's Book-in-Common.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



**Collin Cougar scholarship drives keeps on**

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About *Cougar News*

A newsletter for the students, faculty and staff of the Collin College. Published semi-monthly. For information or submissions, call 972.599.3142. *Cougar News* welcomes student and faculty submissions. Next deadline: Aug. 15. All submissions are due by 5 p.m. on the due date. Photos cannot be returned. Text should be e-mailed to [mrobinson@collin.edu](mailto:mrobinson@collin.edu) or sent on disk. Submit copy that is proofed, edited and saved in Word format. *Cougar News* staff: *Lisa Vasquez, director; Mark Robinson, editor; Marcy Cadena-Smith, contributor; Justin Jones, contributor; Heather Darrow, contributor; Nick Young, photography and layout.*

keeping on

These folks have given. Have you? A fundraiser where \$1 goes a long way. [\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Cougar Links

Send in your favorite things on the Internet and share with the class. [\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College News

Special accolades given to some of our faculty, facilities and departments. [\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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- Collin Cougar seeks help in scholarship endeavor
- Registration for fall classes is ongoing
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- Learning Communities announced for fall 2010
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Collin Cougar seeks help in scholarship endeavor

Give \$1. Give \$5. Give \$20. With Collin Cougar, there's no such thing as a small gift.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Registration for fall classes is ongoing

Register today. If you don't, you might miss out on that class you need. And that would just be a shame.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College News

Visuals from the recent nursing and robotics camp at Collin College.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Jazz camp to feature nightly concerts

The 16th annual Collin College Texas All-Star Jazz Camp brings best, brightest of young musicians with a who's who of instructors.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Learning Communities announced for fall 2010

Space is limited for these unique learning opportunities.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Campus Dates

That noise you hear just ahead in the distance is the fall semester. Already, it's teeming with events.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Cougar Links

Food for the brain, the belly and the soul.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)





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# Cougar News

STUDENT, FACULTY, & STAFF NEWSPAPER

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On-campus employment available

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### Collin Cougar's fundraising efforts continue

Raising \$1,500 for a scholarship.  
He could use your help.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### On-campus employment available

Are you looking for a job on campus? Here's how.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

### College News

Middle of summer and our students, faculty and staff can not help but remain busy.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### This may come as a surprise, but we are all Africans

Recently, Collin College sociology professor Dr. John Glass shared his findings about humans' native, unified homeland—Africa. If you are thinking, "I'm Irish, Russian, Chinese, Polish, Hispanic or Italian, how can that possibly be true?" keep your mind open and check out the ideas behind his seemingly outlandish premise.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

### Quick Facts

What percent of our professors are holding doctorates?  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Campus Dates

These dates are so awesome, they may not be ready for the public.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Cougar Links

From the arts and sciences, links from the great, vast Internet.  
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### Collin Cougar wants to make a difference, could use help

Mascot seeks to raise \$1,500 for scholarship.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Fall registration due to open

Priority registration begins June 22. Open registration begins June 25.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

### Dean's List announced for spring


Maybe you made the list. Maybe you didn't. There's only one way to find out.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

### College releases President's List for spring 2010

The quest for the vaunted 4.0.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)


### Deadline approaching for SMU pre-admission program

Why wait? Apply now for the SMU pre-admission program to get your transfer scene in order.  
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### College News

Many are making headlines.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Campus Dates

Working summer while getting ready for the fall.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Free HIV testing at Spring Creek Campus June 22

Because awareness, education and an early diagnosis are the best defenses.

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Cougar Links

A little bit of everything: Science, food, lifestyle and terraniums.

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Collin College helps area  
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track to college degrees

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and receive NASA award

Research offers unique  
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credits Collin law academy

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**Connection, Fall 2008**

## High School to College:

### Collin College helps area high school students fast-track to college degrees

Can you reduce the time to degree? Where can you turn for help to make sense of the different college options? Kim Rahebi and Christina Shafer found the answers to these questions and more at Collin College where they got a jump start on their college degrees with the dual credit program.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Students discover asteroid and receive NASA award

Three Collin College students discovered a four-and-a-half-billion-year-old rock that most likely formed at the beginning of the solar system.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Research offers unique opportunities for undergrads at Collin

Whether it is extracting DNA from soil, analyzing the conservation movement or exploring the physics of table tennis, students at Collin College have an opportunity that few undergraduates do—conducting research.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Student & Alumni Highlights

**Student & Alumni  
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## Faculty and Staff Highlights

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**Farmersville city manager credits Collin law academy**  
John Moran compares the makeup of a city to a person. No matter the town's size, the new Farmersville city manager explains, it has its own personality that differentiates it from other cities.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



**Did you know?**  
More than 2,000 local high school students enrolled in dual credit courses from Collin College last fall. Click here to see how many were from your local high school.  
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# SILVER ANNIVERSARY CONNECTION

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years

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## Collin College celebrates third U.S. Professor of the Year Award winner in nine years

Congratulations to Dr. Tracey McKenzie who was selected as the 2009 U.S. Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Her honor makes Collin College the only community college in the nation with three U.S. Professors of the Year.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## New university center opens: Baccalaureate, graduate programs now nearby at the Collin Higher Education Center

On January 11, juniors and seniors will step into classrooms at a magnificent, new Collin College campus for the first time, where they will find the finest bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs from area universities.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Where Are They Now?

In honor of the college's silver anniversary, *Where Are They Now* shines the spotlight on three outstanding alumni.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Forging an Era of Fusion:

### *A reflection on the future of education in Collin County*

As the college celebrates its 25th anniversary, President Cary Israel shares insight into higher education trends and America's success in the next 25 years.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Historic Faculty Excellence

With three U.S. Professor of the Year recipients in the past nine years, one Texas Professor of the Year, five Piper Professors and two Fulbright Scholars, the faculty members at Collin College continue to earn state and national acclaim.

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Collin College Milestones Then & Now ...

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Student & Alumni Highlights

Student & Alumni Highlights

[Click Here for Full Story]

Faculty and staff highlights

Faculty & Staff Highlights

[Click Here for Full Story]

Collin College offers associate degrees for future hot jobs


The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics expects the number individuals employed to increase by 16 million by the year 2016. A direct result of this increase will be the number of high-growth jobs, many of which can be accessed through associate degrees from Collin College.

[Click Here for Full Story]

College moves to new home on the web

Effective Jan. 11, 2010, Collin College will change its web address.

[Click Here for Full Story]





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**SPECIAL EDITION**  
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Spotlight shines on Collin professor as one of Texas' best

NASA hand picks 11 Collin students as aerospace scholars

Where are they now?  
Dr. Chad Lemaire graduates No. 1 in med school

Create a legacy honoring those you love and respect

Crème de la crème:  
Frito-Lay food scientist finds recipe for success in Collin College culinary program

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Prestigious book award for Collin professor

Did you know?

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### Back-to-back Piper Professors:

#### Spotlight shines on Collin professor as one of Texas' best

As a 22-year teaching veteran, Dr. Peggy Brown's enthusiasm for her profession and students shines through in her efforts to "nurture, inspire, challenge and engage" her students. The English and humanities professor's idealistic spirit caught the attention of the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation recently, which awarded her the 2009 Piper Professor award for superior teaching at a Texas college or university.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### NASA hand picks 11 Collin students as aerospace scholars

NASA selected 11 Collin College students as Community College Aerospace Scholars. The students participated in a three-day, Mars-exploration project, designed for science and engineering students, at the Johnson Space Center.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Where are they now?

#### Dr. Chad Lemaire graduates No. 1 in med school

Growing up on an alligator farm, Chad M. Lemaire did not imagine that he would attend medical school, let alone graduate at the top of his class. However in 2006, the former Collin College student graduated No. 1 in his class at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and became the outstanding student in a class of 175 at one of the country's top medical schools.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Create a legacy honoring those you love and respect

Collin College is announcing an opportunity for patrons to make a high-profile and profound tribute. The college has earmarked a handful of landmark buildings and facilities for permanent naming rights tied to scholarship funds.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



### Crème de la crème:

#### Frito-Lay food scientist finds recipe for success in Collin College culinary program

Susan Licker had already earned a master's degree in food science from Cornell University. But when she wanted to broaden her expertise with skills she could use in her job in product development at Frito-Lay Inc. in Plano, she turned to Collin College.

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**Student Highlights**

**Student HIGHLIGHTs**

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**Faculty and staff highlights**

**Faculty & Staff HIGHLIGHTs**

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**Prestigious book award for Collin professor**

Dr. Kyle G. Wilkison received the 2008 T.R. Fehrenbach Award for his book *Yeomen, Sharecroppers, and Socialists: Plain Folk Protest in Texas, 1870-1914* from the Texas Historical Commission.

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**Did you know?**

Learn about students attending college during high school, alumni starring on television and nursing excellence.

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## Alumni who protect and serve: will they be here tomorrow?

Imagine an empty fire station, a classroom with no teacher, the vacant police cruiser. Is this an end-of-days scenario? No, it is a crisis averted in 1985 when voters established Collin College.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Core Values lead Collin College

It is challenging to put a face on institutions of higher education because colleges are more than buildings; they are a myriad of diverse, living beings and evolving, intangible ideas. However, it is surprisingly simple to describe Collin College because the professors, students and staff exude its core values.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Q&A with the Mayors

How does Collin College impact your community?



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## Where are they now?

Collin College leads Dr. Sydney Anne Barcus to new career path in industrial psychology.

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## Student highlights

**Student HIGHLIGHTS**

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## Faculty and staff highlights

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Collin College, schedules local town hall meetings.

Collin College is seeking community input for its next strategic plan through a series of town hall meetings scheduled in Plano, Farmersville, Celina, Allen, Frisco and McKinney.  
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Did you know?

Collin College is among the largest employers in the area, supporting hundreds of Texas businesses.  
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The Community Update from Collin County Community College District

FALL 2008:  
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## Collin College releases report card

Accountability is one of the hottest words in higher education. In fact, the State of Texas is considering a report card to compare success measures for colleges and universities. Collin College is so committed to accountability that we are proactively releasing a report card to the community.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

## Coming soon: Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D's

Soon, local residents will not have to leave Collin County for junior and senior-level college classes as well as graduate and doctoral programs. Collin College is finalizing program plans for the new Higher Education Center in which university partners will offer a variety of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Where are they now?

### *War-torn dreams lead brothers to become physicians*

Read how war-torn dreams led two brothers who are Collin College alumni to become physicians. Dr. Tri Phung is now an anesthesiology resident and Dr. Vu Phung is a family practice resident.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



## Faculty and Staff Highlights

### HIGHLIGHTS Faculty & Staff

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## Students News

### HIGHLIGHTS Student News

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## Honor societies emphasize excellence at Collin College

Collin College has six academic honor societies. These organizations promote the college's core value of "Academic Excellence," as students are required to achieve and maintain a minimum grade point average in addition to volunteering.  
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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College commits to water conservation effort

McKinney, Texas uses 50 percent more water for outdoor irrigation than the national average. That alarming statistic led city officials to develop a water conservation plan, and when Collin College officials began the expansion of Central Park Campus, college leaders worked with the city to adopt an innovative landscaping plan to conserve water.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



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The Community Update from Collin County Community College District

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## She's number one! Collin College professor honored as nation's best

When Collin College students step into class this spring, they may be face-to-face with America's top community college professor as veteran math professor Rosemary Karr donned a new title as the 2007 U.S. Professor of the Year.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

## Collin College, Austin College enter pre-admission agreement

The distance between Sherman and Collin County just got shorter for local college students.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

## Collin College President named 'Best in the West'

Dr. Cary A. Israel, president of Collin College, is the recipient of the Chief Executive Officer Award for the Western Region of the Association of Community College Trustees.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

## New higher education center to bring 4-year degrees, graduate programs to Collin County

Bachelor's degrees in your backyard. Master's degrees in McKinney. Both will go from headlines to reality in a couple of years as Collin College prepares to welcome university degree programs to a new campus in the heart of Collin County.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

## Where Are They Now? Two Brians find their personal paths to success

Are you still occasionally reminded of a professional calling you have yet to fulfill? Do you ever wonder how your life might be different if you acted on that longing? Take a look at two former Collin College students who share the first name of Brian but lead very different lives—the lives of their dreams.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

## Hard hat alert at Collin College campuses

McKinney, Plano and Frisco are undergoing renovations and construction. Come visit us and check out the changes.

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Collin College Foundation to present 2008 Collin Cabaret

Mark your calendar as the Collin College Foundation presents the 2008 Collin Cabaret, An Evening of Entertainment for Education on Feb. 16.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

The Guild of Honor

Dedication to students, love for advanced learning. These are a few factors that drive Collin College faculty to excel in the classroom. Join us as we spotlight some of the professors who have earned remarkable, national honors and brought acclaim to your community college.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Student News



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Faculty and Staff News



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

New CougarAlert text messaging system keeps students, employees safe

Campus safety may be as near as a cell phone text message with the new "CougarAlert" system. Collin College just introduced this new system to add to the convenience and safety of students, faculty and staff.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Collin College one of ten in nation to get 'Encore Careers' grant

Accountants, statisticians and engineers over the age of 50 looking at retirement or a re-career should know they can make a big difference.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Did you know?

Test your knowledge of community colleges!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

# Collin College

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