

Celebrating 35 years of service in Collin County

Collin College is celebrating a historic milestone during the 2019-20 academic year – its 35th year as a community college district. On April 6, 1985, residents voted in favor of establishing a community college, and the Collin County Community College District was born.

Classes began in the fall of 1985 using local high school classrooms. The college moved into its first building, which still stands on what is today the McKinney Campus (Central Park), in the spring of 1986. Two more full campuses, in Plano and Frisco, opened in 1988 and 1995, respectively.

Today, Collin College serves more than 58,000 students and has three main campuses in Frisco, Plano, and McKinney, as well as the Courtyard Center in Plano, the Allen Center, the Public Safety Training Center in McKinney, the Rockwall Center, and the Collin Higher Education Center (CHEC) in McKinney, which provides bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree studies through a partnership with five area universities.

In 2020, the college will open two new sites: the Collin College Technical Campus in Allen and the Wylie Campus. In 2021, the college is planning to open campuses in Farmersville and Celina and the IT Center at the Frisco Campus (Preston Ridge). The college's new campuses and programs are pending approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).



Dr. J. Robert Collins

Looking back, Collin College Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. J. Robert Collins reflected on how the college began.

"I think the work started around 1980 or even a little bit before that with some community folks working on the need for a college here in Collin County," Collins said.

Collin County's population was less than 150,000 at that time, and it barely topped 200,000 when the college opened five years later, according to Collins.

"We knew there was going to be growth in the county, but we didn't know how much," Collins said. "Today, I look back and say, 'this has been a heck of a ride.' There are very few people in the country that have the chance to experience what we have had here in Collin County – the growth, the outstanding cities, and the communities that are developing with this college. It's just unbelievable."

Collin College District President Dr. Neil Matkin could not agree more. Matkin's first day at the college was April 6, 2015. April 6 is the anniversary of the election that established the college and is celebrated annually as Founders Day. Matkin remembers joining college employees



McKINNEY CAMPUS (Central Park) **THEN**



McKINNEY CAMPUS (Central Park) **NOW**

as they lined up outside to form the number 30 for a photograph commemorating the college's 30th anniversary.

The college's most recent success and growth is due to its alignment with the community and extensive partnerships, according to Matkin.

"We have incredible partnerships with our independent school districts, our economic development corporations, and our cities," Matkin said. "When you look at our new Collin College Technical Campus in Allen, it's a partnership between the four major school districts of Collin County, and it's also a partnership directly with Allen ISD for the dual credit academy. Plano ISD's Health Sciences Academy is also a tremendous partnership. The Public Safety Training Center is a partnership between the city of McKinney, the city of Allen, and first responders across the entire Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. We truly are a partnership more than an institution."



Collin College approved to grant four-year degrees



The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) recently approved the college's level change application from a Level I Institution, granting two-year degrees, to a Level II Institution, granting four-year degrees.

The level change includes the approval of Collin's first two baccalaureate degrees: a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Bachelor of Applied Technology in Cybersecurity.

"As of January 2020, Collin College will begin offering selected baccalaureate degrees," said Collin College District President Dr. Neil Matkin. "This is an amazing new chapter for the college and the culmination of a tremendous amount of work from many dedicated people."

In 2017, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed Senate Bill 2118 into law, authorizing certain public community colleges to offer up to three baccalaureate degrees. Matkin said plans for a third baccalaureate program at Collin College are in development and will be announced at a later date.

"Although we are now approved to grant four-year degrees, we will remain a community college," he said. "Senate Bill 2118 was specifically designed to help community colleges address critical workforce shortages in high-demand fields in Texas."

WYLIE CAMPUS:

More than 500 employees, contractors, and subcontractors working with Skanska USA, were on hand for a special “topping out” ceremony May 23 at the Wylie Campus, commemorating the placement of the final steel beam.

The Wylie Campus will open in fall 2020 and offer a comprehensive educational experience. Proposed programs include:

Academic Transfer

Business

Education and Child Development

Fine Arts

Health Sciences

Hospitality Management

Real Estate

Science, Technology, Engineering,
and Math

TECHNICAL CAMPUS:

The Technical Campus will serve traditional students, adult and continuing education learners, and dual credit students from high schools throughout the college’s service area.

The Technical Campus will open in fall 2020 and proposed programs include:

Automotive Service Technician

Biomedical Equipment Technology

Collision Repair

Computer Aided Drafting and Design

Construction Management

Electronic Engineering Technology

Health Sciences

HVAC

Industrial Automation

Information Technology

FUTURE LOCATIONS:

The college is planning to open campuses in Farmersville and Celina and the IT Center at the Frisco Campus (Preston Ridge), and construction will kick off this fall.

Proposed programs at the Celina Campus include:

Academic Transfer

Business

Computer Aided Drafting and Design

Information Technology

Health Professions:

Certified Nurse Aide

Phlebotomy Technician

Electrocardiograph Technician

Proposed programs at the Farmersville Campus include:

Academic Transfer

Business

Information Technology

Logistics

The IT Center at the Frisco Campus (Preston Ridge) will expand the IT programs available to students. It will also be the central location for the college’s new **Bachelor of Applied Technology in Cybersecurity** degree, which will be introduced in January 2020.

IT'S GROW TIME!

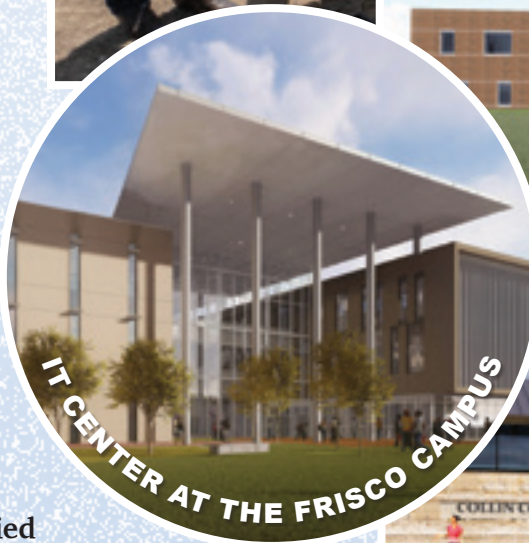
SKANSKA



COLLIN COLLEGE



WYLIE CAMPUS TOPPING OUT CEREMONY

TECHNICAL CAMPUS TOUR

IT CENTER AT THE FRISCO CAMPUS



CELINA CAMPUS



FARMERSVILLE CAMPUS

Collin College breaks down barriers with high school equivalency program

Many jobs require a high school diploma or its equivalent. This fall Collin College is breaking down barriers by offering a new high school equivalency preparation program with courses to help students prepare for a state-issued high school equivalency credential.

The college is now home to a new HiSET® high school equivalency testing center.

“It is important to open the door of opportunity for all individuals and promote continued growth for our community,” said Dr. Neil Matkin, Collin College district president. “This new endeavor is just one way we are supporting students and preparing them for future possibilities in life.”

This fall, students will be able to take non-credit high school equivalency courses at the college’s Courtyard Center in Plano. The new courses will include training for HiSET® test subjects in language arts-reading, language arts-writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

“We are excited to offer this new program because earning a high school equivalency is a tremendous personal achievement,” said Dr. Sherry Schumann, Collin College executive vice president.

The HiSET® test will be offered via computer or paper. Students have the option to take the test in English or Spanish. Registration for the HiSET® exam is available online through the vendor. All available testing dates and times can be found on the HiSET® website at hiset.ets.org.

To find out more about this new program and to enroll in Collin College’s new courses, contact Linda Wee, director of workforce and professional development, at lwee@collin.edu.

“This new endeavor is just one way we are supporting students and preparing them for future possibilities in life.”

Local, state, federal agencies train at PSTC

Since opening in fall 2018, Collin College’s Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) in McKinney has hosted dozens of local, state, and federal law enforcement and fire service agencies and has developed into one of the premier training facilities in Texas and the surrounding region.

“I knew it was going to be popular,” said Scott Donaldson, Law Enforcement Academy director. “I am just surprised it happened this quickly.”

In the first nine months of its operation, the PSTC drew officers from 191 Texas police departments or other city agencies, 71 Texas county agencies, the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, as well as officers from departments in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Virginia. Fifteen agencies have sent cadets to attend the college’s Basic Peace Officer course and six others have hired Collin College Law Enforcement Academy graduates who trained at the PSTC. Fire departments from across Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas have traveled to the center.

At the national level, seven federal agencies have used the facility or sent personnel for training, including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service Regional Enforcement Action Capabilities Training (REACT) Team. With dedicated spaces for reality-based training, defensive tactics, and three indoor firearms ranges, law enforcement agencies have the flexibility to do a wide range of training in a comfortable, controllable environment. That is what drew the Texas Rangers to Collin College for training.

“[Collin College was] able to provide a state-of-the-art facility with classrooms as well as an indoor firearms range that provided an optimum teaching and learning environment,” said Lonny Haschell, public information officer for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The PSTC’s North Texas location also means it is easily accessible for this section of the country. Other federal agencies are currently in talks to move their annual training and quarterly qualifications to the PSTC. Prior to the PSTC’s construction, those agencies traveled to New Mexico, Georgia, or North Carolina for training. The PSTC’s proximity to nearby field offices, combined with its quality, means agencies can use this closer option for training.

“It saves them money – our tax money – to train in their own backyard,” Donaldson said.

New trustees sworn into office



From left: Dr. Raj Menon, Greg Gomel, Jay Saad, and Stacy Anne Arias are sworn in by Kristy Horkman, secretary to the Board, on May 21.

Four newly elected Board members, including a returning former Board member and one incumbent, were sworn into office at the regular Collin College Board of Trustees meeting on May 21.

Dr. Raj Menon was re-elected to the Place 5 seat and has served on the Board since 2016. Menon is a business executive and president of The Menon Group, Inc. He serves on the Collin College Finance & Audit Committee and Collin College Foundation Board.

Jay Saad, newly elected to Place 2, is vice president of sales at Cigna Healthcare for North Texas and Oklahoma. Saad, a Plano resident, has participated on local and state boards for the Texas Association of Business and has also participated in March of Dimes.

Greg Gomel, newly elected to Place 4, is the founder of The Gomel Group and executive director of Agile for Patriots. Gomel’s leadership and board experience include serving on several Collin College advisory committees, as a Plano Youth Leadership board member, Leadership Plano graduate, Plano ISD Career & Technical Education advisory committee member, NPower regional advisory board member, Plano Chamber of Commerce member, Institute for Excellence in Corporate Governance member, Plano Kiwanis member, First Baptist Plano member, American Legion Post 178-Frisco

member, and Lieutenant Commander in the United States Coast Guard Reserve (retired).

Stacy Anne Arias, newly elected to Place 6, previously held the Place 5 seat on the Board for 12 years. She now lives in Melissa and is the founder and CEO of AriaEd Educational Consulting, LLC. During her time on the Board, she served on the Collin College Campus Facilities & Construction Committee and the Collin College Budget & Finance Committee, among others. Arias has served on a number of city and nonprofit boards, such as the Celina Economic Development Corporation board and the Texas Council on Family Violence. She currently serves as the president for the Americas Chamber of Business for McKinney, Melissa, and Anna.

“The business, education, and community service experience the new members bring will be invaluable to the Board,” said Dr. J. Robert Collins, chairman of the Board of Trustees. “We are pleased to welcome the new members, and we look forward to working together to continue toward our goal of making Collin among the outstanding community colleges in the nation.”

Also at the May 21 meeting, officers were elected. Serving two-year terms as Board officers are: Dr. J. Robert Collins, chairman; Andrew Hardin, vice chairman; Jim Orr, secretary; and Dr. Raj Menon, treasurer.

Coming Soon: Events for the community

All performances will be held at the Plano Campus (Spring Creek).

THEATRE

Note: Theatre events begin at 7:30 p.m.; weekend matinee time is 2:15 p.m.

It Can't Happen Here

by Sinclair Lewis
Oct. 3-5 and 9-12 at 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 6, 12 and 13 at 2:15 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Cinderella Panto

by Jackie Mellor-Guin
(Based on the classic fairytale)
Dec. 5-7 and 11-14 at 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8, 14-15 at 2:15 p.m.
Black Box Theatre

An Original Work

devised by James Ortiz
(creator of the award-winning THE WOODSMAN) and company
Feb. 27-29 and March 4-7 at 7:30 p.m.
March 1, 7-8 at 2:15 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Little Gems 2.0

(A festival of one-act plays)
April 16-18 at 7:30 p.m.
April 18-19 at 2:15 p.m.
Alt Lab Theatre (B148)

The Fantastiks

music by Harvey Schmidt
lyrics by Tom Jones
April 30-May 2 and May 6-9 at 7:30 p.m.
May 3, 9-10 at 2:15 p.m.
Black Box Theatre

Summer Shakespeare (TBA)

June 24-27 at 7:30 p.m.
June 28 at 2:15 p.m.
Black Box Theatre

DANCE

Dance Fusion

Nov. 8-9 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Dances at 7

Dec. 5-6 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre



InterACTION

April 16-18 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Dances at 7

May 7-8 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

MUSIC

Instrumental Jazz

Nov. 2 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

OneSound

Nov. 15-16 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Wind and String Ensembles

Nov. 19 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Guitar Ensembles

Nov. 22-23 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Expressions Vocal Jazz and Jazztet

Nov. 22-23 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Honors Voice Recital

Nov. 25 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Chamber Choir and Keyboard Ensemble

Nov. 26 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

New Music Ensemble

Dec. 3 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Solo Guitar Concert

Dec. 4 at 7 p.m.
The Art Gallery

Commercial Voice Showcase

Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.
Plano Campus (Spring Creek) B187

Opera Scenes

Dec. 6 and 8 at 7 p.m.
The Art Gallery



Fall Jazz

Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Jazz Festival

March 27-28 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Chamber Choir

April 7 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Honors Voice Recital & Keyboard Ensemble

April 20 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Guitar Ensembles

April 21 at 5 p.m.
Plano Campus (Spring Creek) C104

OneSound

April 25 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Commercial Music Buzz

April 27 at 7 p.m.
Living Legends Conference Center

Wind and String Ensembles

April 30 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Expressions

May 1 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Spring Jazz

May 2 at 7 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Opera

May 3 at noon and May 4 at 4 p.m.
The Art Gallery

New Music Ensemble

May 5 at 4 p.m.
John Anthony Theatre

Guitar Soloists

May 6 at 4 p.m.
The Art Gallery

Commercial Voice

May 7 at 4 p.m.
Plano Campus (Spring Creek) B187

New performances and art exhibitions are being added regularly. Check www.collin.edu/finearts for the latest information.

College administrators receive AACCC commission appointments



Dr. Sherry Schumann, Collin College executive vice president, was appointed to the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC) Commission on College

Readiness, which helps to identify colleges and K-12 districts that have innovative solutions to advance college-going rates. The commission will volunteer as needed to assist in designing innovative programming for superintendents and college presidents to foster more effective and efficient relationships between the two associations.



Mike Dickson, Collin College chief innovation officer, was appointed to the AACCC Commission on Institutional Infrastructure and Transformation. The Commission on Institutional

Infrastructure and Transformation will be charged with focusing on the transformation of the institution to improve student success, which includes administrative processes, infrastructure, technology, and building human resource capacity.



Dr. Abe Johnson, Collin College vice president/provost of the Plano Campus (Spring Creek), has been appointed to the AACCC Commission on Economic and Workforce Development. The

commission is charged with examining ways to close skills gaps by focusing career and technical education on preparing students with the knowledge and skills required for existing and future jobs; showcasing cutting-edge innovation that improves student success; and offering affordable, high-quality technical assistance in areas that support student success.

By the Decade: The early years 1985-1989

As the college celebrates 35 years of education and service in Collin County, we look back at the important milestones that contributed to the college's history. Here, the college shares interviews with a few of the key people who were a part of its first decade.



How the college was founded in 1985

"We had to get a petition of voters in Collin County. We organized a committee of 100 citizens who then went throughout the county getting signatures on petitions. So, we had a lot of support already built for it. Then we got approval from the legislature and we put the college, all of the candidates for the Board – nine positions – and a bond package on the ballot. It all passed. Everything passed, and we elected nine members of the Board."



Dr. J. Robert Collins
Founding Trustee and
Collin College Board Chairman



Teaching in the early years

"I began working at Collin College in August 1986. I think there were 11 or 12 total faculty members when I started. We could meet in a small room. I was hired to teach physics and geology because I am a geophysicist by profession. We worked at the McKinney Campus (Central Park). It wasn't as big as it is now."



Dr. Mike Broyles
Collin College
Professor of Physics



How the three main campuses came to be

"The master plan study came back and said we needed to consider putting campuses inside three circles, and the three circles were in Plano, McKinney, and where Plano and Frisco come together right there at 121 and Preston Road. So we had our map kind of laid out for us, and we began to put together the plans for our initial three major campuses."

What has been the driving force behind Collin College's success over the years?

"One thing we've always been blessed with is a good vision in our Board and in our college. How do we excel in this environment? How do we become the very best? I'll never forget, we told Dr. [John] Anthony when he first came in – and we've told this to every president – 'John, we're not interested in becoming the best college in Texas. We want to be the best college in the United States.' And that's still our objective."

Your expectations when you arrived in 1985

"I saw nothing but phenomenal potential. The opportunities were beyond anything anyone could have anticipated. We had the chance to begin with a blank tablet, and how often do you get to do that with a college or anything else? We knew we had to do a good job of getting things started and getting the right people involved, and we were able to do that."



Dr. John Anthony
Collin College President
1985-1999



How the concept of multiple campuses came about

"In 1985 the Board hired a consulting firm to develop a master plan, which called for three campuses – one in McKinney, one in the Plano area, and one in the Frisco area. We followed that master plan almost to the letter. We were fortunate to have enough bond money to buy the land and original building in McKinney, buy the land in Plano and construct the campus there, and buy the land in Frisco. We felt that with the potential for the district to grow, multiple campuses would be ideal. We didn't want students to have to drive more than 15 miles to get to a campus."

What are you most proud of?

"Without a doubt, it's the faculty and staff we put together. It was by far the most superior group I worked with in my 50-plus years in education. We recognized the importance of recruiting properly. We looked for people who were student-oriented, team players, and who believed in community colleges and what they stood for. We spent a lot of valuable time making sure we got the right people, and they, in turn, helped us recruit other good people over the years. I couldn't be more proud of the faculty and staff that we put together. And I think it's still true of the college today – they recruit nothing but the best faculty and staff to meet the needs of our students and our community."

Technology

"We didn't have the technology back then that we do now. We did virtually nothing on computers. I had a computer in my office, but I didn't do much with it because the college didn't have internet connection. We did have VCRs and videotapes in the classroom. We did everything on the board. Back then, it was blackboards with chalk rather than whiteboards with colored pens. When you had to make materials for class, we used duplicators, which meant that you had to hand crank to make multiple copies, and your fingers would turn purple after making a few copies for the class."

Historic milestones

"When the Plano Campus (Spring Creek) opened in the fall of 1988, I knew that I was going to be moving there. I went there with our dean, and she showed us where the building was going to be. It was just a dirt field at that time. It was amazing when a couple of years later the campus came out of that cow pasture. That was a big milestone."

"The amazing thing is the growth in students. I think the first semester we had about 1,500 students or so, and the next semester it was about 3,000. Now it is more than 58,000. That's an exponential growth."

The early days

"I started working for my dad, Dr. Walter Pike, in December 1985. He was then the vice president of administrative services and the college's first employee. My initial role was whatever he told me to do. I answered the phone, took lots of notes, names, and phone numbers, and received orders. Desks and parking stickers were delivered. I proofread programs and schedules and made sure they were printed correctly. Because it was just him, I sorted lots of résumés for the people he initially hired."



Leigh Ann Pike
Collin College Alumna, 1987



College growth

"While a student, I witnessed the groundbreaking of the Plano Campus (Spring Creek), the gym and library being built, computers being installed, and the theater becoming a really beautiful place."

Influential professors

"Mitchell Smith was my English professor and taught me to really love English, enough to major in it. Joe Jaynes was a great history professor and somehow made that fun. If you weren't really into history, he would tell you to think of it like a movie and cast the characters as your favorite movie stars and plot it out like that, and then maybe you could remember what happened in 1785."

First graduating class

"I was in the first graduating class. It was held outside under a tree in the front of the McKinney Campus (Central Park). It was really hot, so they tried to keep it very short, and it was, thankfully. The Board members, President Anthony, Dr. Pike, and most of the professors were on the stage. There were only 10 or 15 of us, so it wasn't a huge ceremony like the graduation ceremonies today. It was just a little platform stage and lots of folding chairs."

New workforce degrees coming to Collin College

New workforce degree options are on the way for Collin College students. The following six Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees are pending approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges: automotive service technician, biomedical equipment technology, collision repair, industrial automation, insurance management, and sport and recreation management.

The new degrees are elements of the college's strategic plan to add workforce and academic programs that align with projected Collin County labor market needs.

"Labor market analysis shows there is an increasing demand for employees in these new degree areas," said Dr. Sherry Schumann, Collin College executive vice president. "We plan to offer the new degree programs to traditional and nontraditional students."

Automotive Service Technician Degree

This degree addresses the explosive population growth and number of automobiles, as well as the increasing number of automotive dealers and repair shops in Collin County. Students in this program will earn industry-recognized Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certifications, qualifying them for Maintenance and Light Repair (MLR) or Automotive Service Technician (AST) designations. Employment opportunities include dealerships; large tire, lube and repair chains; and independent shops.

Biomedical Equipment Technology Degree

This degree offers students the opportunity to develop skills in anatomy and physiology, safety, electricity and electronics, health care technology and function, and problem solving. Biomedical equipment technology courses range from general medical equipment, and physiological instruments to safety in health care facilities, fundamentals of X-ray, and medical imaging systems. Employment opportunities include area hospitals, emergency facilities, clinics, medical labs, equipment contractors, and medical equipment sales.

Collision Repair Degree

Also addressing the increasing number of automobiles in Collin County, the collision repair degree is designed to prepare technicians for high-skill, high-demand positions. Students will earn multiple industry-recognized I-CAR certifications. This degree also offers students the opportunity to work in major dealerships' auto body shops, large collision repair chains, and independent shops.

Industrial Automation Degree

An outgrowth of the electronic/electrical area, which includes mechanical areas such as hydraulics and pneumatics, this degree prepares students for positions in industrial automation. Students will develop an electronics foundation and learn to test, evaluate, calibrate, troubleshoot, repair, and install industrial automation equipment, as well as program industrial control and robotic systems.

Insurance Management Degree

This degree and certificate program is designed to prepare students for a variety of positions in the insurance industry, including sales agents, underwriters, claims processing clerks, appraisers, and adjusters.

Subject areas include personal insurance, commercial insurance, risk management, claims adjusting, insurance data analytics, negotiation, and more. Students may be able to sit for multiple certification exams after completing the curriculum.

Sport and Recreation Management Degree

Employment settings include sports and fitness marketing and sales, sports retail management, recreation program planning, facilities director, and athletic coaching positions.



College announces administrative appointments

Dr. Sherry Schumann has been appointed executive vice president. She previously served as the senior vice president from 2015-2019. Schumann has also served as the vice president/provost of the McKinney Campus (Central Park), the interim vice president/provost of the Plano Campus (Spring Creek), and the associate vice president of Distance and Weekend College. She holds a B.S. and M.S. in physical education from Florida State University and a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of North Texas.



Dr. Sherry Schumann

Dr. Jon Hardesty has been appointed vice president of academic affairs. Previously, he served as the vice president/provost of Collin College's McKinney Campus (Central Park). Hardesty also served as dean of science, technology, engineering, and math at the Frisco Campus (Preston Ridge). He completed his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Houston. He holds an M.B.A. from Southern Methodist University and a B.S. in chemistry from Texas State University in San Marcos.



Dr. Jon Hardesty

Dr. Jane Leach has been appointed dean of nursing. She previously served as division chair of the nursing program for North Central Texas College from 2017-2019. Leach was coordinator of the M.S.N. nurse educator program and associate professor at Midwestern State University from 2005-2017. Leach is a certified maternal newborn nurse and a certified nurse educator. Leach holds a B.S.N. from The



Dr. Jane Leach

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, an M.S.N. in nursing education from Midwestern State University, and a Ph.D. in postsecondary adult education from Capella University.

Jason Parry has been appointed executive director of facilities and construction. He served as the director of facilities and construction at Collin College from March to May. Previously he served as a project manager for The University of Texas System Office of Facilities Planning and Construction. Parry is a professional engineer licensed in the state of Texas. He holds a B.S. in civil engineering and an M.E. in civil and environmental engineering from The University of Texas at El Paso.



Jason Parry

Craig Leverette has been appointed dean of academic affairs and workforce for the new Wylie Campus. Leverette previously served as the dean of academic affairs for the Plano Campus (Spring Creek). Leverette holds a B.S. in kinesiology from the University of Houston and an M.S. in health and physical education from Texas A&M University-Commerce.



Craig Leverette

Shane Ammons has been appointed chief information security officer of Collin College. He had served as the executive director of academic technology and network services at Collin College since 2005. Ammons holds a B.B.A. from Howard Payne University.



Shane Ammons

Workforce Focus: Polysomnography and Commercial Music

Students interested in entering the job market quickly, improving their skills, or changing careers can choose from dozens of workforce programs at Collin College that will train them for rewarding futures. Programs ranging from animation to welding prepare Collin graduates to enter the workforce ready to succeed, armed with the

technical skills and knowledge that employers are seeking. Beginning with this issue, *Connection* will feature some of these programs to provide details of Collin College’s offerings in workforce education. This issue’s featured programs: **Polysomnography (Sleep Tech)** and **Commercial Music**.

Polysomnography

Everyone needs a good night’s sleep. Roughly 60 million Americans suffer from at least one of the more than 100 sleep disorders that have already been identified in the growing field of sleep science. As a polysomnographic (sleep) technologist, you will be on the front lines of medical professionals who help patients get the rest their bodies need to function properly.



Polysomnographic technologists conduct sleep studies that allow physicians to diagnose and treat patients suffering from sleep disorders, allowing them to get a more restful night’s sleep. Collin College’s program provides students with the skills and fundamental knowledge to effectively monitor, manage, and treat sleep disorders under medical supervision.

Career Outlook

An average of one per 2,500 people have a sleep disorder in America. Currently, there are just over 24,000 registered polysomnographic (sleep) technologists worldwide. As the profession grows, the program’s graduates will be in a position to grow with it.

Polysomnographic Technologist average salary: \$55,000*
27% Growth **

Choose Your Education

Associate of Applied Science (60 credit hours)
for individuals with no current health care background
Certificate Level 1 – Polysomnographic Technology (28 credit hours)
for individuals who are board registered in any health care field and/or have a minimum of one year of work experience in a sleep lab/center



Program Accreditation

The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation for Polysomnographic Technologist Education.
Learn more at www.collin.edu/sleep.

Commercial Music

Whether you dream of being the engineer behind music’s next big sensation or you want to keep the sound crisp for a band rocking at a club, Collin College’s Commercial Music program can teach you the skills to make the most of the music. From mixing, mastering, and live sound engineering to music marketing and talent management, the program equips you with a solid framework for building a career in commercial music.

Program Features

- Audio engineering courses taught in a full studio
- Professors who have worked in the music industry
- Hands-on experience with live performances

Career Outlook

Sound Engineering Technician average salary: \$54,000 *
20% Growth **



Choose Your Education

Associate of Applied Science (60 credit hours)
Certificate Level 1 – Audio Engineering Studio Track (31 credit hours)
Live Sound Track (31 credit hours)
Certificate Level 2 – Music Business (33 credit hours)

Learn more at www.collin.edu/departments/music/commercial_music_overview.html.

Learn about all of Collin College’s degree and certificate programs at www.collin.edu/academics/programs/index.html.

Data obtained from JobsEQ (Collin County), O*NET, Workforce Solutions of North Central Texas and Salary.com.
* Note: The earning potential for employees with certifications and associate of applied science degrees may exceed the average salary.
** Note: Job growth projected from 2019-2025

Dual Credit

Save time & money! Students can earn high school credit AND college credit through Dual Credit classes.
Learn more: www.collin.edu/express/dualcredit.html

Then and NOW

Though the college will have 11 sites by 2021 and a new IT Center at the Frisco Campus (Preston Ridge), it started with much humbler beginnings. Collin College did not have a physical home in fall 1985, so the community opened its doors, allowing the first Collin College students to take classes at area high schools in Allen, Frisco, Plano, and McKinney – foreshadowing a few of the college’s future campuses and centers.

ENROLLMENT

Fall 1985: **1,326** students
Current enrollment: more than **58,000** credit and continuing education students

TUITION

Fall 1985: **\$10**/credit hour
Fall 2019: **\$52**/credit hour*
**Lowest tuition in the state of Texas*

CERTIFICATES

Spring 1990: **2** certificates awarded for the first time
1990-2018: **9,429** total certificates awarded

DEGREES

Spring 1987: **9** Associate of Arts (AA) degrees awarded for the first time
1987-2018: **15,834** total AA degrees awarded

Fall 1987: **1** Associate of Science (AS) degree awarded for the first time
1988-2018: **8,721** total AS degrees awarded

Spring 1988: **3** Associate of Applied Science (AAS) workforce degrees awarded for the first time
1988-2018: **6,486** total AAS degrees awarded

Spring 2006: **2** Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degrees awarded for the first time
2006-2018: **536** total AAT degrees awarded

1987-2018: **31,577** total associate degrees awarded
(Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Arts in Teaching)

GRADUATION

May 16, 1987: **First graduation**
Nine students finished in May, and four students finished in August, bringing the total number of graduates to **13**. The first graduation was held outside at the McKinney Campus (Central Park), the college’s first campus.
Fall 2018: First December graduation; **1,469** graduates
Spring 2019: **2,086** graduates

CONTINUING EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

Fall 1986: **13** students
Current enrollment: more than **12,000** continuing education students



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