This report, covering the year that concluded June 30, 2012, is part of an annual effort to outline institutional accomplishments reached by the community’s college. GCCC’s mission is to produce positive contributors to society and the economy, focusing on five key outcomes:

- Essential skills
- Work preparedness
- Academic advancement
- Personal enrichment
- Workforce development

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Garden City Community College is an institution on the move.

As president of GCCC, I believe in accountability, and that is one of the reasons you are receiving this annual report. I place a great deal of respect in the relationship between our elected governing body, the GCCC Board of Trustees, and the taxpaying public that owns the institution.

In addition, I highly value the policy governance system by which our board sets objectives and parameters, and places responsibility on our administrative team, faculty and staff – and ultimately on the president – to achieve our goals in serving the public.

With this in mind, it is my honor to report to you that over the past year this institution:

- Was ranked among the top 10 percent of American community colleges a second consecutive time
- Was named among the top 24 community colleges in the nation for student success
- Joined the 2013 list of Military Friendly Colleges
- Earned authorization to launch a powerful new program on Oil Technology
- Became part of the TRAC 7 consortium to provide workforce training to Kansas job seekers
- Logged our largest increase in student enrollment in six years
- Drew accolades from the U.S. under secretary of education, the Kansas governor and the president of the Kansas Board of Regents
- Just launched a new trademark logo to reflect the success and excellence that have long been our hallmarks.

These accomplishments, and others that you will find in this report from the college and our elected board, go hand in hand with an extensive list of attainments reached by our diverse corps of credit and non-credit students.

I believe it is our faculty and staff who deserve credit for the success of GCCC. These are challenging and changing times in higher education, but we are moving toward a bright and beneficial horizon because of their talent, skill and dedication.

Dr. Herbert J. Swender
GCCC President

“In my search for a college, I was very impressed with GCCC because everyone made me feel welcome and the atmosphere made me feel at home.”

Jaden Bolmer, Lakin
2012 GCCC Ambassador Scholar
ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Refugee and English as a Second Language programs of the Adult Learning Center moved into the GCCC Access and Opportunity Center, a new facility created from a former retail store on the east side of Campus Drive.

GED graduates of the GCCC Adult Learning Center participated in the first dedicated commencement ceremony of their own, with class members Maricela Gomez, Johnson, and Brenda Armendariz, Garden City, delivering keynote addresses to the auditorium of graduates and family members.

GCCC served as the site for one of three Kansas governor’s town hall meetings on the topic “Rising to the Challenge: Reducing Childhood Poverty and Improving Childhood Outcomes in Kansas.”

ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT

Dr. Martha J. Kanter, U.S. under secretary of education, spoke at the inauguration of Dr. Herbert J. Swender as GCCC’s sixth president, referring to community colleges as the “unsung heroes of American higher education.”

Federal grant funding for the GCCC Educational Talent Search Program was renewed for the next five years, with a first-year allocation of $238,134.

GCCC completed a study on the flow of federal Pell Grant funds to Kansas community colleges and provided it to the Community College National Legislative Summit and the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees. The study attracted national attention through the Associated Press, including a cover story by Community College Week magazine.

Collegiate reading instructors from across Kansas converged at GCCC to organize and launch the Kansas Association of Developmental Reading Instructors.

The college launched a new automatic payment plan to make it easier for students to manage their tuition and fee obligations, in partnership with Nelnet Business Solutions.

GCCC student Samantha Ricard, Holcomb, was named a 2012 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Bronze Scholar, becoming one of 150 recipients designated in the nation.

“Lucky 13,” the 34th Annual GCCC Endowment Association Scholarship Auction, raised a gross total of more than $192,000 for academic and technical scholarships.

Garden City High School senior Hugo Ailon, of the GCCC Educational Talent Search Program, earned a Gates Millennium Scholarship, making him one of 1,000 select students in the nation.

Judges of the Kansas Court of Appeals gave a presentation at GCCC on the judicial process, drawing a full house on the eve of hearing a series of cases at the Finney County Courthouse.

The Kansas Associated Collegiate Press selected GCCC’s Silhouette for the 2012 All Kansas Award, making it the top student newspaper in Kansas, with Breakaway taking second place among student-published magazines.

GCCC Fine Arts Day took place for the first time, bringing students from surrounding high schools for experience sessions and scholarship auditions in visual arts, drama, music and journalism.

The Lois Kay Walls Foundation, Wichita, converted the GCCC Endowment Association’s Kay Walls annual scholarship to an endowed memorial scholarship, through a $60,000 gift.

New scholarship funds to benefit students becoming paramedics were established with the GCCC Endowment Association in memory of long-time area resident Bonnie Jameson and Kearny County EMS Director Jeff Landgraf.
GCCC’s student Kansas National Education Association chapter led a volunteer project to revitalize the playground at Jennie Barker Elementary School, drawing campus and community involvement.

Dr. Herbert J. Swender served as a presenter at the 45th annual conference of the Council for Resource Development in Washington, DC.

GCCC hosted a joint meeting of the Garden City, Dodge City and Seward County Community College Boards of Trustees, focusing on change and adaptation in higher education.

GCCC team member Jacob Fish, Hillsboro, earned the individual national championship in intercollegiate meat judging, with GCCC taking reserve national champion team honors.

Kansas Deputy Secretary of Workforce Services Caleb Asher and Dr. Edward Hammond, Fort Hays State University president, shared perspectives as keynote inservice speakers on the campus.

The GCCC Academic Excellence Challenge Team competed in the National Academic Quiz Tournament in Panama City, Fla., and returned as one of the top 16 teams in the nation, also earning the Sunflower League state championship.

The GCCC Players returned from 2012 regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival competition, with each student finishing in the top three to five places in the opening round, and four earning special notice for their participation or accomplishments.

More than 200 people attended the Garden City segment of College Goal Sunday, coordinated by the GCCC Financial Aid Office, providing assistance to 91 college-bound students and their families as part of a series of simultaneous sessions in 22 Kansas communities.

Mark Randall of the Denver Nuggets addressed a crowd of 2,200 as guest speaker for GCCC’s 92nd commencement, while Finney County Sheriff Kevin Bascue, former GCCC student, was recognized as distinguished guest.

Kansas Farm Bureau Member Services Director Debbie Hargrave presented GCCC with a $750 check to charter a Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter, offering leadership, networking and advocacy opportunities for students in agriculture.

GCCC’s 45th annual intercollegiate rodeo drew a visit by the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association commissioner and was voted Rodeo of the Year in the Central Plains Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. In addition, the women’s team finished 18th in the College National Finals Rodeo.

**WORK PREPAREDNESS**

GCCC received an IME Fellowship grant of $10,000 from the Consulate of Mexico for a two-plus-one program in industrial maintenance, and another in the same amount to support a pilot program in Spanish-language classes through the EduKan Internet community college consortium.

GCCC served as the simultaneous site for the Southwest Kansas Economic Outlook Conference, co-sponsored by the Finney County Economic Development Corporation, and The Economics of Health Care, an economic symposium hosted with support from St. Catherine Hospital and the Finney County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

In addition to non-credit courses that have been offered many years, the Business and Community Education Department launched a series of short-term college credit courses in professional development and business skills.

Criminal Justice, Fire Science and Paramedic students in the Department of Public Safety provided over 700 public service hours through traffic control at parades; Day of Service, Exploration Day and Ride for the Future activities; Garden City’s Tumbleweed and Balloon Festivals; the Big Brothers-Big Sisters Program and Humane Society assistance.

**PERSONAL ENRICHMENT**

Kansas Poet Laureate Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg made two visits to GCCC, once to present a public workshop and later for a community reading event hosted by the English Department.

GCCC hosted Garden City’s 2012 campus and community celebration of Martin Luther King Day, featuring a public address by Arun Gandhi, grandson of historic figure Mahatma Gandhi.

Jazz saxophonist Robert Young of Wichita State University led the Southwest Kansas All Star Big Band in a public concert as part of the 2012 Garden City Jazz Festival, staged in partnership by GCCC and the Garden City Telegram.

Area theater patrons saw GCCC performances of Thornton Wilder’s “The Seven Deadly Sins,” John Cariani’s “Almost Maine,” and “Man of La Mancha,” by Dale Wasserman, in addition to GCCC hosting the debut of “Dream Your Dreams,” an original production by Garden City resident Duane West.

**Institutional Accomplishments**

A report to the public from Garden City Community College.

The school is full of passionate educators and faculty who are dedicated to the students. This college gave us the start we needed to accomplish our dreams.”

**Jacob Hughes, Providence, RI**

2009 GCCC graduate
A total of 51 individuals donated in the annual campus blood drive for the American Red Cross, and approximately 25 students became blood donors for the first time in their lives.

GCCC served as the site for the Finney County-Southwest Kansas Republican Caucus and the Southwest Kansas Democratic Presidential Preference Primary.

More than 100 motorcycles and other vehicles, with 137 riders and passengers, participated in the GCCC Public Safety Department’s fifth annual Ride for the Future. The 170-mile scholarship fund-raising event included networking with law enforcement, emergency medical service and fire department personnel.

Governor Sam Brownback credited GCCC and partner schools of the TRAC 7 consortium “for making a positive difference toward putting Kansans to work,” in conjunction with a $20 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Program grant from the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education.

GCCC received a $54,444 segment of an Accelerating Opportunity Grant from the Kansas Board of Regents and Kansas Department of Commerce to transform adult education into career pathways for postsecondary credentials.

The Nursing and Allied Health Department hosted a first-ever health care career fair, linking job seekers with health care providers throughout the area.

The Business and Community Education Department conducted short-term workforce and professional development training for 83 businesses, serving 187 individuals through 326 enrollments, while staging 15 contract training sessions and offering 119 business and life enrichment courses.

The number of trainees served by the Industrial Ammonia Refrigeration Program surpassed 6,580 individuals, based on total enrollments since initiation in 1996, representing 685 companies.

“Your do a tremendous job here in Garden City. We get a lot of your transfer students at Kansas State University, and they’re highly successful.”

Dr. Kirk Schulz
President, Kansas State University

INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS
REVENUES & EXPENDITURES
During 2011-2012, GCCC operated with overall educational fund expenditures of $15,574,187 and revenues of $15,382,609.

![Revenue Expenditure Pie Charts]

GCCC also receives extensive federal grant funding not necessarily reflected in the overall educational fund expenditures.

**Annual grant funding**

$7,233,711

*Based on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards in the college’s annual audit report, presented to the GCCC Board of Trustees in January, 2012 for the year ended June 30, 2011.*

GCCC ECONOMIC IMPACT

GCCC’s estimated positive annual impact on the local economy:

$68.4 million

*Based on 2011-2012 budget total for all funds, plus federal grants, using a conservative factor of three as a local economic multiplier.*

“GCCC gave me the confidence to go to college here and at KU, and to go on into a career in law enforcement. If it wasn’t for this place, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Finney County Sheriff Kevin Bascue
Former GCCC student
INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

“This is one of my dreams, which sometimes I thought was too far away. It is like a door that has been opened in my life. Because of GCCC, I want to encourage everyone not to give up on your education for any reason.”

Maricela Gomez, Johnson
2012 GED graduate and commencement speaker

INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The national spotlight focused repeatedly on GCCC during 2011-12 and in recent months. The institution was:

- Ranked among the top 10 percent of American community colleges for the second consecutive year by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program
  Based on graduation rates, degrees awarded, student retention rates and equity in student outcomes

- Ranked among the top 24 community colleges in the nation by CNNMoney Magazine
  Based on student success in graduation and transfer to the baccalaureate level

- Designated as a Military Friendly College by G.I. Jobs Magazine
  Based on accommodation of U.S. service personnel and veterans

- Featured in print, broadcast and online news reports across the nation
  Based on the GCCC study, “Powered by Pell: A grassroots perspective”

PARTNERSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

GCCC entered a series of partnerships with baccalaureate colleges and universities during 2011 and 2012 including:

- Kansas State University
  Allows students to complete their GCCC associate degrees after transferring to KSU

- Kansas State University
  Makes bachelor’s degrees available in Garden City in Fire Science and Technology Management, Interdisciplinary Social Science, Avionics, Business Administration and General Business

- Sterling College
  Provides bachelor’s degree programs in Garden City in most fields covered in Sterling’s curriculum

- Newman University
  Gives GCCC graduates guaranteed acceptance with junior class standing

- National American University
  Also gives GCCC graduates guaranteed acceptance with junior class standing
“Garden City is the largest community in this part of the state, and it is a very diverse community. In education, GCCC provides a great opportunity for people. No place is better than a community college for making people feel like they have a chance in the world.”

Dr. Andy Tompkins, president and chief executive officer
Kansas Board of Regents
BRONCBUSTER ATHLETICS

The men and women representing GCCC on the court, field and track earned numerous honors in 2011-2012, including:

• The Region VI championship and national runner-up status
  
  Men’s Cross Country Team

• Jayhawk Conference Western Division Freshman of the Year honors
  
  Women’s basketball player Tamara Jones, also a national player of the week

• Jayhawk Conference Western Division Championship
  
  Broncbuster Baseball Team

• Jayhawk Conference Defensive Player of the Year award
  
  Chaz Nelson of the Buster Football Team, also an NJCAA first-team all-American

• NJCAA Academic All-American honors, including three with perfect grade point averages
  
  Five softball, four football, three women’s basketball, two baseball, two women’s soccer and one men’s cross country team members

BOOSTING THE WORKFORCE

Kansans can count on new career opportunities due to TRAC-7, a consortium of GCCC and six other institutions formed in 2011-2012 to provide industry-recognized credentials for workers.

The consortium is:

• Coordinated by the Technical Institute at Washburn University.

• Funded by a $19.6 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant from the U.S. Labor Department.

GCCC is developing a Food Safety Program, with a $1.7 million share of the grant, so people can start careers in the fast-growing food safety, service, processing and inspection industry. Components include:

• A 53-foot semi-trailer based mobile classroom
  
  This will take learning to work locations

• Improvements at the John Collins Vocational Building
  
  These include lab and classroom renovations and a walk-in cooler

• The addition of a two full-time professionals
  
  These include an instructor and a technical education case manager

INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

“At a time when a college degree is essential to entering the middle class, community colleges like GCCC offer the most promising path to education and employment for literally millions of Americans.”

Josh Wyner, executive director
Aspen Institute College Excellence Program
A PLACE FOR ART
Mercer Gallery helps fulfill GCCC’s objective of providing personal enrichment for Southwest Kansas. The two-room facility has been offering quality exhibitions of art in multiple media since it opened in 1989.

- Regular exhibitions
  Eight to nine annually, August through May
- Location
  West wing of the Pauline Joyce Fine Arts Building
- Access
  Mercer Gallery admission is free

The gallery was made possible by generous contributions from the late Maxine Mercer Porter, in memory of her first husband Clyde Mercer, an area farmer, pilot, teacher and artist. Exhibitions include local, regional and nationally noted artists working in:

- painting
- print making
- sculpture
- mixed media
- drawing
- ceramics
- photography
- other imagery

DRILLING INTO OPPORTUNITY
Southwest Kansans can now qualify for careers in the expanding U.S. energy field due to approval by the Kansas Board of Regents of the new GCCC Oil Technology Program. Participants can take a set of core classes and then focus on one of two options:

- Oil exploration • Oil production

Oil Tech students can earn stackable credentials and choose:

- The exploration certificate
  This involves 22 college credit hours
- The production certificate
  This involves 36 credit college hours
- The associate in applied science degree
  This follows certification and includes 67 credit hours

GCCC’s new program involves industry partnerships and includes support and involvement from:

- American Warrior
- Chesapeake Energy
- Cimarex Energy
- Petro Santander, Inc.
- Other industry partners too

Representatives will be serving on the program advisory board, and the partners will be called on to offer apprenticeships, assist in development and provide help or equipment for on-site training.

“It is obvious that Garden City Community College cares about this community. This is a college that is going to grow and serve its community the very best it can.”

Dr. Martha J. Kanter, under secretary
U.S. Department of Education
GCCC is governed by an elected board of six Finney County citizens, with board members serving as representatives of the Finney County taxpayers. The board uses a system of policy-based governance and delegates administrative leadership to the president, Dr. Herbert J. Swender.

President’s Cabinet
1. Dr. Herbert J. Swender, President
2. Dee Wigner, Executive Vice President
3. Dr. Bruce Exstrom, Vice President for Instructional Services
4. Ryan Ruda Vice President for Student Services
Public input
Since the GCCC Board of Trustees represents the taxpayers of Finney County, the governing board welcomes views, opinions and suggestions from the public. Calls, correspondence and attendance at monthly meetings are welcome. Information may be found under Board of Trustees at www.gcccks.edu, and the board maintains a dedicated e-mail address for public input:

trustees@gcccks.edu