CULTURE OF CARING
COLLEGE FOCUSES ON ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO FACILITATE LEARNING
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What an exciting sesquicentennial year it has been at Weatherford College! We have added many new permanently endowed scholarships, won prestigious awards, embarked on a building campaign, and enhanced student success. One of the most exciting events of our sesquicentennial year was the recent approval authorizing Weatherford College to grant bachelor’s degrees. We are on track to launch a new Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing degree program in the Fall 2020 semester, and additional bachelor’s degrees are in the planning stages. Great things continue to happen at WC!

I am also proud to announce the launch of a Presidential Core Value campaign built around the core values of “faith, hope and love.” Faith in our students, faculty, staff, alumni and community. Hope that our shared future can be even brighter than our distinguished past. And love — a love that will permeate our organizational culture and positively impact each of our students. To commemorate the Presidential Core Value campaign, I have minted coins inscribed with the presidential core values of faith, hope and love. I intend to award core value coins to individuals who demonstrate significant actions of faith, hope and love. Sue Coody and Bob Glenn were among the first recipients of the Presidential Core Value Coins. Weatherford College will do more than produce students with degrees or certificates. We will produce graduates who possess the solid work ethic and the core values that will make them strong employees and citizens.

Finally, Weatherford College has recently formalized our organizational “Culture of Caring.” WC has always been known as a caring institution, but in our sesquicentennial year, we decided that it was the perfect time to take our organization to the next level. In this edition of The Hilltop, you will read more about our “Culture of Caring.” Simply put, we will care more about our students, more about each other and more about our college community than ever before. Thank you for all that you have done to help Weatherford College have such a fantastic sesquicentennial year!

Dr. Tod Allen Farmer
President
by Crystal Woerly

There is growing discussion at Weatherford College about the “culture of caring,” and it’s not as abstract as it sounds. Google it and you’ll find numerous examples of how to build a workspace centered on empowerment and engagement in an effort to create a culture of caring. But what does that mean for a community college?

Mike Endy, vice president of academics and student services, outlined through a variety of anecdotes what the culture of caring is and what it means to WC during a recent in-service meeting.

“When we talk about creating a culture of caring, we aren’t starting from scratch,” he said. “We’re talking about taking what we’re already doing and readjusting it to understand the students we’re serving now.”

Endy went on to say the culture of caring is eliminating barriers, making data-informed decisions and accelerating learning so students can achieve success.

So what does a culture of caring look like? It’s contacting a student to find out why they haven’t paid their tuition before dropping their registration.

It’s talking to a student to find out what’s not working when they fail a math test rather than blaming them for not studying enough.

It’s understanding that a student who shows up late for class doesn’t lack dedication to their education, but could have had a family emergency on the way out the door.

“From the parking lot on campus to the stage at graduation, our first-generation and at-risk students are afraid they don’t belong here,” Endy said. “We tell them we have lots of people coming through and daring us not to ask, not to be caught. And they are sure they don’t belong here. And every time something bad happens it reinforces that belief and they bail. The obstacles that can get in our students’ way can be significant and never occur to us.”

WC administrators are united in the belief that the culture of caring also means taking care of employees, so they can then take care of their students.

With this in mind, Dr. Tod Allen Farmer, WC president, recently instituted a 30-minute daily work break for full-time employees as part of the Coyote Wellness program. Employees can use this time to participate in on-campus fitness classes, walk the campus or read a book in the library.

school. I didn’t want anyone to know about my family. I was in stealth mode as much as I could possibly be during college.”

Endy completed college because an advisor reached out and put him on the right path. An employee at his institution cared about him.

“If he hadn’t set me in a different path, I don’t know where I’d be because I wouldn’t have asked,” Endy said. “Realize the people who are impoverished are already suffering. Don’t make them ask. We have lots of people coming through and daring us not to ask, not to be caught. And they are sure they don’t belong here. And every time something bad happens it reinforces that belief and they bail. The obstacles that can get in our students’
Tonya Black ('18) graduated from Tarleton State University in May with a degree in social work.

Chris Blair ('04, '11) has been named vice president of Southwest Erosion Control. Chris graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with his MBA in August.

Jill Brown ('18), Stacy Wallace ('18) and Misty Hoffman ('18) now work at Touchstone Ranch Recovery Center in Hico. Jill is executive director, Stacy is a counselor and Misty is a compliance specialist.

Shannon Butler is now teaching at John and Lyn Brawner Intermediate School in the Granbury ISD.

Wayne and Mable Davee celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in September.

Justin and Kayleigh Goff Langford ('13) welcomed Caroline Grace Langford to their family in April. Kayleigh is a WC nursing graduate and works at Baylor, Scott & White Andrews Women’s Hospital in Fort Worth.

Dovie Suzanne Howser ('17) graduated from Tarleton State University in May with her Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing.

Mia Mills Gum ('16) graduated from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Agricultural Education, married Rhett Gum and is now an agricultural science teacher in Quilcene, Washington.

Lela and Butch Morris celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 12.

Melissa Schat was reappointed to the Texas Board of Nursing by Governor Greg Abbott. Melissa lives in Granbury and is a pediatric nurse with Cook Children’s Medical Center.

Kaitlyn Williams ('14) earned her Master of Science degree in Ranger and Wildlife Management from Sul Ross State University in May.

At the Distinguished Awards Luncheon for the Weatherford ISD Ex-Student Association in September, WC alumni Jon Vandagriff ('55) and the late Dr. Joe B. Frantz ('36) were honored as distinguished alumni.

At the 99th annual Weatherford Chamber of Commerce Banquet in October, several Weatherford College alumni were honored, including Lonna Leach (James H. Doss Award), Sharon Hayes (Athena Award), and John Patterson (Rising Star Award). Alumna and Chamber President Tammy Gazzola was also recognized for 20 years at the chamber, and the family of late WC board member Roger Grizzard was honored with the inaugural Roger Grizzard Community Service Award.
Steve Reid knows something about changing students’ lives.

In his 30-year football coaching career, which included stints at TCU, Aledo High School and Weatherford High School, Reid saw how education can impact the lives of young people first hand. So when he and his wife, Jerry, were approached by Weatherford College Foundation President Bob Glenn about establishing a new scholarship for WC students, it was the perfect fit.

“[You hope to be able to help someone else when you can],” Reid said. “[It’s not my motivation to be in the limelight, but we do take a lot of pride in helping these students.”

Thanks to Glenn, the Reids are not alone. Since May of this year, 10 new permanent scholarship endowments have been established for WC students, all of them through the work of Glenn. After retiring from Plains Capital Bank and a more than 55-year career in Parker County banking, he is volunteering to raise funds for the foundation.

“What Bob is doing is just incredible,” said Brent Baker, executive director of the foundation. “Once he decided to retire, he approached us about volunteering several days a week. He told me that there was only so much golf he could play…he wanted to help students. And boy, has he!”

Scholarships from Wayne and Sharon Garrett, PlainsCapital Bank, the Wayne Hodges Family, Bob and Kristen Tallman, John and Ida Shires, Ronald M. Walker, Alan and Lee Ann White, Morris and Judy White and a fund in honor of Gary Wood from the members of North Side Baptist Church are all new since Glenn came on board.

Although the college’s sesquicentennial year was the perfect time for this focus on fundraising, Glenn says he plans on continuing the effort in 2020 and beyond. For more information on the foundation, visit www.wc.edu/foundation.
1. The Weatherford Chamber of Commerce awarded Weatherford College as Large Business of the Year at the 99th annual chamber banquet held Oct. 1. Pictured are Sue Coody and Lela Morris (trustees), President Farmer, Lonna Leach (WC Foundation board), Brent Baker (vice president of institutional advancement), and Bob Glenn and Mark Riebe (WC Foundation board members).

2. WC’s touring theatre troupe and cast of “Trees A Crowd.” The students performed the production, geared towards young children, in the Alkek Fine Arts Center in late September and at WC Wise County in October. They are also performing the production at area elementary schools.

3. Dan and Jayne Curlee have donated a grand piano to the Weatherford College Wise County campus. Dan (right) is pictured with President Farmer.

4. The National Science Foundation has awarded Weatherford College with an Advanced Technological Education grant in the amount of $299,856 to develop a program in industrial maintenance and automation technology (IMAT). A selection of IMAT courses will be offered in the Fall 2019 semester with additional courses rolled out in phases over subsequent semesters. Pictured are Jerry Barrow and Hayden Harbold, principal investigators for the IMAT project.

5. President Farmer recognized art instructor Myrlan Coleman with the second annual Presidential Service Award during his Presidential Luncheon and Address in September. Coleman is celebrating her 50th year at WC.

6. The HUB International team comprised of Forrest Broyles, Travis Ryffel, Jeff Montgomery and Chad Kerr took first place at the annual Weatherford College Foundation Golf Tournament on Oct. 3.
7. Jordan Wallace, Dave Cowley, Shane Utley at Wally Wallace posed for a fun photo at the WC Foundation Golf Tournament.

8. Ralph Willingham, Weatherford College’s director of admissions and veterans coordinator, was awarded the Diana Davis Service Award for Excellence by the Western Association of Veterans Education Specialists (WAVES) this past summer. The award was established in memory of Diana Davis, who was WC’s VA liaison in Waco for many years. Willingham is one of four recipients of this award out of hundreds of schools that attend the annual WAVES conference.

9. Thanks to the generosity of Richard and Nancy Stuart, a Steinway B grand piano arrived on campus Sept. 30, to rounds of applause from college employees and students. This is the first grand piano purchased as part of WC’s All-Steinway initiative.
1. WC employees participated in the Parker County Frontier Days Rodeo Parade in June promoting the college’s 150th anniversary.

2. Students enjoyed a variety of events during Welcome Week, the first full week of classes during the fall semester, including snow cones, a WC 150th birthday cake and an evening of pizza and bowling at Film Alley.

3. The WC cheerleaders participated in the Weatherford High School homecoming parade on Sept. 19.

4. Pioneer Days events were held on Oct. 8 and 9. Students were treated to activities provided by the Doss Heritage and Culture Center, a cookout, roping dummies, a hay ride, a mechanical bull and much more as the college continues the sesquicentennial celebration.
We are very serious about student success. We are very serious about a culture of caring. We are very serious about improving the human condition.”

To students attending the luncheon, Farmer emphasized that Weatherford College is their college.

“You are our highest priority,” he said. “You are surrounded by people who care about you and want you to succeed. Weatherford College is your college. This is your opportunity to work hard and turn your dreams into reality. I challenge you to seize this opportunity, make a better life for yourself, realize the American dream.”

**CARING from page 3.**

“This is your time to do what you deem necessary for your health,” Farmer told employees in his recent Presidential Address. “You and your health are very important to Weatherford College.”

During his speech at the luncheon, Farmer also announced 18 merit-based field promotions.

“It is individuals who drive and achieve excellence, and we want every individual to pursue excellence. To sustain that pursuit of excellence, we must motivate and reward individuals,” Farmer said. “… We are very serious about taking care of our employees.

We are very serious about improving the human condition.”
Dr. Tod Allen Farmer, WC president, announced his Presidential Core Value campaign during his Presidential Luncheon and Address on Sept. 13.

After much reflection, he said he wanted to narrow his focus to values that transcend cultures, gender, politics and religion. The result was a focus on faith, hope and love.

“Faith in our students, faculty, staff and community,” Farmer said. “Hope that our shared future can be even brighter than our distinguished past. And love. A love that flows like warm honey over smooth rocks and permeates every facet of our culture of caring.”

He then presented the first Presidential Core Values coin to Sue Coody, a retired WC employee and the current WC Board of Trustees vice chair.

Coody came to WC in 1973 after serving as a teacher in Weatherford ISD. During her career at WC, she taught English, served as a humanities division director, the director of institutional effectiveness and director of instructional support prior to her retirement in 2011.

“Of the many amazing individuals associated with Weatherford College, I can think of no one who for such a sustained period of time has better modeled the core values of faith, hope and love,” Farmer said.

A few weeks later, Farmer surprised Bob Glenn during a WC Foundation board meeting with a coin.

“Mr. Bob Glenn models ‘love’ on a daily basis,” Farmer said. “For decades, Bob has loved Weatherford, loved Weatherford College and loved the people of our great community. It is truly my honor to award him with a Presidential Core Values coin.”
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>11.1.19</td>
<td>MONDELLO COLLEGE // 7 P.M. [M]</td>
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<td>11.9.19</td>
<td>MOUNTAIN VIEW // 1 P.M. [M]</td>
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<td>11.18.19</td>
<td>MOUNTAIN VIEW // 5 P.M. [W]</td>
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<td>AUSTRALIA &amp; CYM PREP // 5 P.M. [W] &amp; 7 P.M. [M]</td>
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<td>LOYALTY PREP // 2 P.M. [M]</td>
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**2019-2020 WC BASKETBALL HOME GAME SCHEDULE**

**CONFERENCE HOME GAMES**

1.18.20
GRAYSON COLLEGE
2 P.M. [W] & 4 P.M. [M]

1.22.20
COLLIN COLLEGE
5 P.M. [W] & 7 P.M. [M]

1.29.20
MCLENNAN COMM. COLLEGE
5 P.M. [W] & 7 P.M. [M]

2.1.20
SW CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
2 P.M. [W] & 4 P.M. [M]

2.8.20
TEMPLE COLLEGE
2 P.M. [W] & 4 P.M. [M]

2.12.20
CISCO COLLEGE
6 P.M. [W]

2.17.20
RANGER COLLEGE
5 P.M. [W] & 7 P.M. [M]

2.22.20
HILL COLLEGE
2 P.M. [W] & 4 P.M. [M]

ALL HOME GAMES ARE PLAYED IN THE GRABER ATHLETIC CENTER

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Presented by the Weatherford College
FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

FALL FINE ARTS SEASON

NOVEMBER

5 NOV
Choir Concert
7:30 p.m.

12 NOV
Student Art Reception
6 p.m.

14 NOV
“Two Pianos, Eight Hands”
Featuring Dr. Hyeyoung Song and students
7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

5 DEC
Jazz Band Concert
7:30 p.m.

9 DEC
Handel’s Messiah
7:30 p.m.

14 DEC
Opera Workshop Performance
7:30 p.m.

INFORMATION

Doors open half-hour prior to start.
Located in the Marjorie Black Alkek Fine Arts Center

Follow the WC Fine Arts Group on Facebook

Thank you for supporting the Weatherford College Fine Arts Department