**Introduction:** This report is prepared for our faculty and staff and is shared with our Board of Trustees, College Retirees, KC Foundation Board of Directors and Trustees, and our general public by way of our web site. Through this report we will reflect back on the projects of 2006 and touch on the initiatives planned for 2007.

**Our Continuing Commitments for 2007:** What we do, and do well, is to equip students with the skills and knowledge for gaining good paying jobs, to serve the needs of adult basic education, to provide training and retraining of the workforce, to offer community and continuing education, and to provide for the first two years of a four-year degree. We focus on **hands-on educational experiences** and we have expanded this philosophy to include a **minds-on approach through participatory learning**. We are an institution where “everyone is someone” from preparing under-prepared students to teaching state-of-the-art highly sophisticated programs. We will continue as a world-class “Learning College” where the students are at the center of our college universe in an environment represented by the core values of: **respect, compassion, honesty, fairness, and responsibility**. The College has also become a broker of higher education for our district through our University Alliance initiative that we expect to continue to expand. Thus, our New Year’s Resolution is to continue these commitments with a continued focus on excellence.

**The Year 2006:** Reflecting back on this past year, I want to express my appreciation to the faculty and staff for all of the hard work and long hours in serving record enrollments. There were many accomplishments in this past year for which we are eternally grateful. Some of these major accomplishments are as follows:

1. Reaching a record enrollment of 11,092 students served during FY 2005-06. This unduplicated headcount represents about 5,000 students enrolled on the main campus, KC programs at the Centralia Corrections Center, and the KC Crisp Technology Center with the remaining students enrolled at our Educational Centers, dual-credit, and on-line.

2. Completion of the Vision 2020 project, which was a district-wide strategic planning process of acquiring input from our citizens. This project resulted in the development of a Strategic Plan (2006-2020). The process was followed by the creation of a Five-Year Institutional Plan.

3. Construction started on the first building for the new KC Vandalia Campus following a very successful major gifts campaign totaling nearly $3 million, of which the College received the largest single gift ever of $1,350,000.

4. The Health and Professional Careers Building project was started that is scheduled to be completed by June 2007 and one-half of the temporary buildings were torn down with the remaining buildings scheduled to be removed in June.

5. The first phase of the Sports Complex was completed which includes a new Softball Field, improvements to Baseball Field, new Concession and Restroom facility, along with road and landscaping improvements.
6. Renovations and major improvements were launched for converting the former CVS Building in downtown Centralia into an Institute for Entrepreneurial Success and One-Stop Employment Center. This project is expected to be completed and operational by April 2007.

7. Planning and design started on the proposed new Lifelong Learning Center. This building will be constructed between the new H&PC and the HB Buildings. Construction is expected to start in June 2007.

8. The College Auditorium was dedicated as the Jane Knight Auditorium through the gift of approximately $600,000 from the Joe Knight estate. The late Mr. Knight had previously served on the Board of Trustees and was a strong supporter of KC and community colleges.

9. There was continued growth in dual-credit enrollments, reaching 3,400 high school students enrolled this past year. Online enrollments also continued to grow with an enrollment of over 2,000 students and offerings of over 200 courses, full degrees, and several certificates available online.

10. Of tremendous importance is the launching during the year of the Datatel computer project. Our IT personnel along with all the using departments have been very busy training and moving through the implementation and conversion phases. Our appreciation is extended to everyone involved with this computer systems update project, which is going very well.

11. Several new courses and educational programs were developed and approved during the year by our faculty. These new offerings will allow us to reach new populations throughout the district. Also, our outreach effort and expanded schedules have become more comprehensive by making education available at times and places convenient to the learners. Many thanks to our faculty and staff for the creativeness and foresight in serving our public.

**Our 2007 goals:** KC has reached greatness and is sustaining a high level of excellence through the collective efforts, dedication, loyalty, and commitments of its faculty, staff, and board of trustees along with the support of the KC Foundation, advisory groups, and general public. The College has transitioned into a *world-class community college*. As to the future, the College Vision and Plans are those that have been developed through a process involving the KC family. We will be continuing under the paradigm promoting change (only as needed), supporting risk-taking, and a continuous focus on quality and excellence. It is through this process that we have charted the course that includes the following:

1. We must continue in the direction of securing the needed resources in the future to assist the College in meeting its mission. This includes acquiring lost state grants for workforce development and technology. State funds are also needed for assisting with the Institute for Entrepreneurial Success, Veterans’ Tuition Program, MAP student tuition program, ICCB credit hour grant program, and construction projects for: Phase II Vandalia Campus project, Phase II Lifelong Learning project, and the Agricultural Arena Complex.

2. Our Grants Office will continue to seek private and public grants to support special projects and programs. We appreciate the work of our Office of Planning, Grants and Institutional Research and faculty for the excellent success we are experiencing in acquiring grant funds.
3. We will continue to be aggressive in seeking funds through fundraising with the KC Foundation. We have been the recipient of tremendous generosity from individuals and businesses. Our fundraising projects are listed in a needs analysis document that includes: Phase II of Sports and Wellness Complex, Endowment for general scholarships, Agricultural Complex, equipment for H&PC Building, just to name a few.

4. We will continue to support funds for the professional growth and development of our faculty and staff. Funding for this purpose should also be pursued at the ICCB level, as a state-wide initiative to assist with funding the continuing education of all community college faculty and staff.

5. Our commitment to AQIP and the Lincoln Foundation Silver Award for Excellence will continue to be pursued during 2007.

6. Our University Alliance model must continue to be expanded with additional university degrees migrating to the KC district for undergraduate and graduate degrees. We will need to provide space in the Enrollment Center for several four-year colleges and universities to have a presence on campus.

7. Training and retraining the workforce through our Business and Industry Division will be a focus in the new year. We must interact with our area business and industry firms to make sure we are effectively serving their needs.

8. A continued emphasis will be placed on our adult basic education programs to include GED/ESL and Literacy. We must work as a total institution to expand volunteers and funding for reaching individuals with these needs and then to embrace efforts to transition individuals into credit programs.

9. Under Enrollment Management we will continue the development of our Retention initiative, Academic Advisement Services, Success Center, Recruitment Efforts, and process leadership relative to enrollment and registration procedures.

10. We will be working with the private sector on the construction of student housing near the campus. This project will be important for serving students with accessible and affordable housing while they attend KC.

11. The Fine and Performing Arts must continue to expand in serving students and our public with cultural and social experiences. This will include expanding the “Season of Entertainment” and our “Lecture Series.” We see these additional opportunities as partnerships with surrounding universities. Our Visual Arts program must have a new space to accommodate their needs along with an Art Gallery (planned for the Lifelong Learning Center). I really appreciate the efforts of our Music and Theater programs for expanding concerts and plays on campus as well as performing off-campus for our public. Additionally, our Visual Arts program is doing a wonderful job with the student exhibits on campus, the virtual tour, and arranging for the displaying of the work of visiting artists.
12. A new college-wide telephone system was installed during the December 06 holiday period. Training and fine tuning of the system will be taking place during the first few weeks in January 07. Additionally, we will be continuing the installation of technology for “smart boards” for classrooms, equipment upgrades, and computer and science labs improvements. The Board of Trustees have identified $2 million for technology advances, for which priorities are presently being determined.

13. Following the visit of the delegation from ROC-Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in October 06, we plan to start the process of creating short-term teaching exchanges for KC faculty members and short-term student exchanges as well. Also, we will be organizing information and systems sharing, mainly through electronic communications.

14. The College has been invited to be a member institution in a futurist project that involves one community college from each state. We are excited to have been considered and we are now in the process of determining extent of this project.

**Enrollments actual/projection:** Over the past six fiscal years (2000-01 through 2005-06) our credit and noncredit headcount enrollments have increased 59.8% on a total unduplicated headcount basis (Table 1). We are projecting a modest enrollment growth in 2007, but our objective is to sustain the large increases experienced over the past six years.

| Table 1 |
| Unduplicated Total Headcount Enrollment |
| For each of the past six Fiscal Years |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Years</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007 projected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,940</td>
<td>8,330</td>
<td>9,780</td>
<td>10,836</td>
<td>10,537</td>
<td>11,092</td>
<td>11,564</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 1**

*Unduplicated Total Headcount Enrollment For each of the past six Fiscal Years*
Enrollments displayed on an accumulated Student Semester Credit Hour basis (SSCH) reflects over the past six years a 54.3% increase (Table 2) and by far makes KC the fastest growing community college in Illinois, see attached summary of annual credit hours for all Illinois Community College Districts. (Attachment 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Years</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007 projected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>64,236</td>
<td>72,036</td>
<td>84,830</td>
<td>102,120</td>
<td>97,590</td>
<td>99,147</td>
<td>103,360</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is particularly noteworthy to mention the percentage of high school students from the high schools within the KC district that enroll at the College the fall semester following their graduation from high school. Of those high schools with districts totally within the KC district, 42% of the total graduates enrolled at KC, and if you were to consider only those HS students who were identified as college-bound the data reflects that 66% of these students enrolled at KC. These high numbers are nearly double what you would find with most other institutions. These enrollments don’t just happen, but are a result of the quality of instruction at KC and the excellent working relationships between KC and each school district. Many thanks to everyone for the great job of recruiting, enrolling, retaining, and educating with quality this large number of recent HS graduates. A summary is attached for your review. (Attachment 2)

**Education Centers:** We are very pleased and proud of the development of our Education Centers (Salem, Nashville, Trenton, Greenville, and Vandalia). We will continue to provide offerings based on demonstrated needs at each of these sites. Through these Centers we are reaching individuals that we were not previously serving. Thus, it is imperative to continue with the philosophy of taking education to the people and at the same time continue the expansion of campus programs.
Economic Development: The College has been and will continue to be involved with the operations of the South Central Illinois Growth Alliance (SCIGA). This five-county alliance is moving forward with economic development measurers for the region. The commitment is to grow jobs through expansion of current industries and to promote new jobs through recruiting new businesses to the region.

Intercollegiate Athletics: We will maintain athletic programs that are well respected, competitive, and with academics as the priority. In the future we hope to add competitive tennis to our offerings. We see many students who are academically motivated through team sports and we also see our student-athletes growing individually through participation in team sports. We appreciate very much the work of the KC Sports Association for supporting the advancement of athletics at KC.

Student Life Activities: Many students who come to KC want opportunities to participate in clubs and organizations and student activities, and as such, we will continue to expand our student life activities. Our annual plan will be designed to increase student activities. We are so thankful to all of our faculty members who sponsor student clubs and organizations for the great job they do.

Alumni Relations: A priority for the new year is to increase the activeness of the KC Alumni Association and to solidify the organizational structure along with increasing memberships and fund raising efforts.

Friends of the Fine Arts: We are grateful to the officers and faculty along with staff members who are working hard to build memberships and programs for our Fine and Performing Arts organization. Through this organization there will be funds raised for enhancing programs and scholarships at KC for our students. Also, the organization is gaining new supporters in “friend raising” throughout the district.

Communications: We were told during the Vision 2020 project that we needed to expand our public communications efforts by sharing more student success stories along with the happenings at KC. We do a superb job overall with getting information to our public, however we will work on expanding our efforts to reach all population groups. Thus, we will target with our public the KC human interest stories and accomplishments along with ongoing updates of college facts. Internal communications will also be expanded to include weekly newsletters and other notices. We will utilize email as much as possible to keep the faculty and staff informed.

Shared Governance: Through our team structure, various operational teams are empowered to act on planning, policy formulation, and personnel selections. We encourage all of our faculty and staff to volunteer to serve on the committees/teams preferred. A copy of the teams structure is available on our web site. Please contact the HR office for volunteering to serve.

I want to wish everyone a most successful 2007 and I extend thanks for the accomplishments and service in 2006. KC has a proud 66 years history, starting in 1940 as Centralia Junior College, and becoming Kaskaskia College in 1966 as the first community college organized under the Act of 1965. I am proud to be a part of this distinguished institution. Serving as president the past nearly six years has been very rewarding and an honor.

Dr. Jim Underwood
President