Introduction: Welcome to the Fall 2013 semester and to the start of Academic Year 2013-14. We have an exciting year ahead with several strategies planned for growing and sustaining our overall enrollment levels. My thanks and appreciation is extended to our faculty and staff members over this past year for excellence in teaching, learning, and services. This report is a brief review of the status of the College, which includes information and data extracted from division reports that are available at www.kaskaskia.edu and click on the President’s Pages and the Fall 2013 Annual Report. A special thanks is extended to the administrative personnel for preparing the excellent divisional reports for this publication. The reports are very informative and I encourage everyone to review these documents. This report along with the divisional reports have been prepared to keep our faculty, staff, and public informed on the state-of-the-college as a part of our enhanced communications goals.

New faculty and staff members and promotions: It is a pleasure to welcome new faculty and staff members to the KC family and to congratulate the personnel recently promoted. The new personnel and promotions are as follows:

- Nathan Biggerstaff, Learning Specialist—TRIO program
- Miranda Conley, Education Center Support Specialist—Trenton Education Center
- Carrie Hancock, Promoted to FT Financial Aid Advisor/Coordinator of Veterans’ Services
- Scott Hardin, Safety and Security Officer—Greenville Education Center
- Tiffany Hixenbaugh, Bookstore Assistant
- Mary Huston, Accounts Receivable Specialist
- Jolissa Lybarger, Family Literacy Coordinator
- Della Nagai, Temporary, Full-time Commercial Custodial Instructor--CCC
- Ericka Niedbalski, Financial Aid Advisor
- Kyle Pender, Safety and Security Officer
- Terri Sanders, Accounts Receivable Specialist
- Michelle Sarver, Hospitality and Restaurant Management Instructor--CCC
- Brian Weems, Media Center Technician
- Kara Wilson, Education Center Support Specialist—Vandalia Education Center

New KC Agriculture Education Center: The College has acquired the use of the former Animal Disease Lab located (40,000 sq. ft. building) on the south edge of the main campus. This facility will be the home of the KC Agriculture Education Center that will accommodate all current and future agriculture and horticulture programs. An Intergovernmental Agreement has been reached with the State of Illinois for the College to have use of the facility for the next five years with a renewal option for another five years. The plan is to seek a deed transfer of the property through the legislative process within the next five years. We appreciate very much the leadership of Representative John Cavaletto in coordinating the transition for the use of this
building from the State to Kaskaskia College. Also, we thank Rhonda Boehne for her legal work in preparing and negotiating the agreement with the State’s attorneys.

As a result of the opportunity to utilize this building, we will not be constructing an Ag/Arena facility as planned in our Master Facilities Plan. However, we will be continuing to seek state funds for the future construction of an arena. This facility is planned for an area south and near the former Animal Disease Lab. We are in discussions with a private firm for providing water testing at the Agriculture Education Center as a service for our public. The preponderance of the funds previously allocated for the Ag/Arena project were reallocated to the other four projects under the master plan, which will speed-up the construction of those projects. A major gifts campaign is now being organized to raise $500,000 for equipment and furniture for the new Agriculture home.

**Trenton Education Center Expansion project:** The construction for the renovation and expansion of this project is now underway. To date, we have raised $1,130,000 in cash, property, and pledges with a balance of $70,000 yet to be raised. This balance is expected to be totally raised prior to January 1, 2014. Construction is planned to be completed by August 2014. The project will increase the College presence in western Clinton County from 3,800 to 16,000 sq ft.

**Nashville Education Center Expansion project:** A site has been selected on Highway 127 north of Nashville for an expanded Nashville Education Center. The design team is now working with the Architect on the building and site design. A major gifts campaign will soon be launched to raise $1,285,000, of which $175,000 has already been received for the project. This project will increase our presence in Nashville from 3,500 to 12,000 sq ft. Design and specifications are expected to be completed by January 2014 with construction starting in late spring 2014 and completion by July 2015.

**New Nursing Facility:** Three sites on the main campus are currently being reviewed for a new 15,000 sq. ft. Nursing building. The plan is for a site to have been determined by the end of August. A $500,000 campaign will be launched for assisting with technology and equipping the new facility. This building will accommodate the LPN, ADN, CNA, Phlebotomy, and Paramedicine programs offered on the main campus. A high-tech simulated lab with Emergency Room/ICU and patient rooms will also be a part of the project. We expect to have the facility designed and specifications prepared by January 2014, with construction commencing in spring 2014 and completion by July 2015.

**Crisp Technology Center project:** Planned renovations and a 5,000 sq. ft. expansion will be designed during the Spring semester 2014 with construction planned to start in Fall 2014 and completion scheduled for Summer 2015. A $250,000 campaign will be launched for raising funds for equipment and technology.
Second Building for the Vandalia Campus: The State Capital Development Board (CDB) has approved the first 50% level for the design specifications and is now in the process of reviewing the second 50% phase for the design details of the 22,000 sq. ft. building. All building specifications and design is expected to be completed by early Fall 2013. It is our hope the project will be approved by the State for bidding late this Fall. This is a $7.6 million project with $5.6 million appropriated by the Legislature and $2.0 million that is on hand and was raised locally. The new building will be located south of the current building with a grass area between the two buildings.

Purchases of Buses: The College is now preparing specifications for bidding a 35 passenger bus and a 15 passenger bus for student athletics and general student trips. These vehicles will be added to the existing KC fleet. The KC Sports Association has pledged $90,000 for the purchases and the athletic teams will collectively raise $30,000 per year for each of the next three years for funding the $180,000 project.

Orchestra Pit Cover project: This past year, the KC Friends of the Fine Arts launched a fund raiser to acquire $16,000, or ½ the cost of the total project, to fund a removable floor over the orchestra pit in the Jane Knight Auditorium. The College budgeted for the other ½ of the cost or $16,000 for the project. This allows for a larger stage for in-house music concerts and theater performances along with accommodating guest artist appearances through our Season of Entertainment program.

Steinway Piano Refurbishing project: A proposal has been prepared for the Board of Trustees consideration for refurbishing the College Grand Piano through the Steinway Company. This piano was constructed nearly 100 years ago and was transferred from Centralia Junior College to Kaskaskia College in 1966. This $45,000 refurbishing cost will be evenly divided between the KC Friends of the Fine Arts and the College. Completion of this project will result in basically a new piano, which would cost around $150,000.

New Maintenance Building: A new 8,000 sq. ft. building has been completed east of the KC Sports Association Sports and Activities Building. This new building will accommodate storage for the campus, storage for maintenance equipment, and a workshop for repairs. This is a great addition to the Maintenance Department.

Microbiology Lab & Prep Rooms: Completed this past fiscal year was the Microbiology Lab located in ST107. This is the 4th Science Lab completed in recent years with the Physics Lab scheduled for renovations this next Summer 2014 for the 5th and final lab planned for renovations on the main campus.

General Main Campus Renovations: Under construction and nearly complete are renovations and modernization of seven restrooms on the main campus. Additionally, HVAC improvements have been made throughout the campus and the Business Learning Center has been remodeled.
Veterans Tribute at KC: The bronze sculptured American Eagle has been installed and the first 25,000 names of veterans and their branch of service are being prepared for installation on two 6 ft. x 70 ft. walls on 124 black granite panels. Fundraising continues with $400,000 raised thus far and $100,000 yet needed for phase 1A. The project steering committee is considering construction of three additional walls to accommodate another 38,000 names to be displayed.

Planned New Covered Walkway: The walkway between the Administration Building and the Library Building is planned over the next three years to be covered with the floor being replaced. Also, later this year we plan to repair and expand the culverts that run under the walkway.

New Program Offerings Instituted:

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<tr>
<th>Associate in Fine Arts</th>
<th>Certificates in Phlebotomy</th>
<th>Certificates in Emergency Medical Tech</th>
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<tr>
<td>Auto Parts Mgmt</td>
<td>Auto Cad Certificates</td>
<td>Medical Billing &amp; Coding Diploma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Fitness</td>
<td>Commercial Custodial</td>
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<td>New Ag options</td>
<td>Electronics</td>
<td>Pre-professional curriculum in: Dentistry,</td>
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<td>Aeronautical Science</td>
<td>Auto Maintenance</td>
<td>Medicine, Optometry, Pharmacy,</td>
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<td>Landscaping</td>
<td>Turf Management</td>
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<td>Restaurant Mgmt</td>
<td>Geospatial Technology</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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Enrollments: Our overall unduplicated headcount enrollment is holding at around 12,000 students annually. While many institutions are experiencing enrollment declines, KC is basically sustaining the level achieved the prior year. Likewise, credit hours generated are at the 110,000 level; thus, sustaining the levels of the past two years. In short, headcount enrollments on the main campus are annually around 5,000, 2,000 online, and 5,000 through our several educational centers and off-campus locations. Our enrollment management team is constantly addressing student recruitment strategies and has added a focus on student retention and completion results. There are several fronts by which the team is now pursuing, all for the purpose of sustaining the high enrollment levels achieved over the years. Please refer to the Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment Chart which is on the “KC at a Glance” attachment.

Job Placement Rates: We are proud of our outstanding student job placement rates. Overall the following represents 2012 statistics:

- 91% Employed upon graduation
- 97% Working in Illinois
- 80% Employed in field of study
- 90% Working within 50 miles of Main campus

The College has implemented a new online job vacancy notice for our students and employers. This new model will enhance our services to students on job opportunities.

College Accreditation: This past year the College successfully received continuing accreditation for the institution, accreditation for degrees to be offered online, and degrees approved for offering at each of our education centers, all approved through the Higher Learning
Commission. These are all tremendous accomplishments. In addition, ICCB conducted a complete audit of the College including an audit of enrollments and compliance with ICCB rules and directives. The College received an excellent report card from ICCB, having received no deficiencies in the 22 areas evaluated. The results of this major inspection are due to a very dedicated staff in many areas who are committed to compliance and accountability.

Institutional Advancement Office and the KC Foundation: Several projects involving the Institutional Advancement Office are listed within this report; however, I want to specifically mention a few of the other activities involving fundraising. The KCSA, the KC Friends of the Fine Arts, the KC Alumni and Friends Association are very active organizations and continue to raise funds through many activities and events. All three organizations are funding projects for the institution. Much appreciation is extended to each organization for their commitment to the College and to the students served by the College. Additionally, the Foundation is continuing to grow scholarships and is now providing 231 scholarship awards for a total of $126,646. Also, it should be noted that the Foundation has expanded its “Special Assistance Fund” for providing emergency funds for students needing financial living help to attend college. For the third consecutive year KC has proudly been named a Tree Campus USA institution. Our arboretum continues to expand through the donation of trees and shrubs for recognizing loved ones as a memorial of life.

Grants: KC was recently awarded our first Advanced Technological Education Grant of $196,000 from the National Science Foundation for building geospatial (GPS) programs. Also, exciting is the awarding to KC a Title III Strengthening Institutions Grant for launching the Teachership Academy. Further, two Geothermal grants were received for the Trenton Education Center. We are proud to have received several special program grants for program specific projects. Our appreciation is extended to those faculty and staff members who are preparing grant proposals with the assistance and leadership of Mike Loomis in our Grants Office. Given the State issues with lower and delayed state appropriations, acquiring grant funds is critical to program development and maintaining excellence.

Information Technology: A major improvement to the College IT function is the construction and implementation of high-speed Internet access with a 100Mb fiber connection. This tremendously important project has substantially enhanced online instruction and support services. All College core network servers have been replaced and upgraded with new leading-edge technology. Updating student computer labs and active directory has been accomplished along with enhancements to the College’s local area network and many other systems. We are so thankful to our IT staff for all they do to support technology at KC.

College Finances: Again this past year the College received the prestigious GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This award is indicative of the great job being accomplished by our Finance and Business Office. It is important to note the College finances are being well-managed, as we are paying all claims promptly without debt, given the delay in state payments. I am very proud of our staff managing our finances and personnel to include payroll operations, purchasing and inventory control, accounts receivables and payables, general ledger, internal
auditing, budget preparations and monitoring, investments, HR and flex benefit plan, tax accounting, etc.

**Institutional Planning and Assessment:** A new and efficient model was approved this past year for developing the institutional planning effort. This fully participatory process has enhanced our planning model through the consolidation of the AQIP process with the annual planning function. This integrated system is a major development for the College. Over 250 assessment reports were filed this past year for an increase of 25 percent. Assessment processes are all designed to improve instruction and are a part of all program accreditation requirements and for maintaining accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission. Another project started this past year is the College Readiness project in coordination with pilot area high schools. Appreciation is extended to the faculty and staff and the leadership of the Office of Assessment and Strategic Initiatives for the great job with planning and assessment.

**College Marketing and Public Information:** Much work has transpired this past year in presenting programs and services to our public. As an example, we have instituted a major development with the addition of social media for distributing information on the College. In addition, critical marketing direct support is being provided to our enrollment management function. Also, marketing and public information tasks are effectively supporting our fund-raising campaigns. Along with public forums and special events, these offices have developed many marketing materials and news stories, all for better informing our public on the operations and happenings at the College.

**Student Life:** A new Homecoming Queen and King Program was started this past year along with a new FCA chapter, a new TRIO Club, Fishing Club, and ECHO (environmental) Club. These new clubs are in addition to the 20 existing student clubs and organizations. All of these provide students with leadership skill development and experiences in community services. For the first time in the history of the College we have received the distinguished “All Sports Award” from the Great Rivers Athletic Conference. This award is in recognition of the total intercollegiate sports programs’ success at KC. The academic success, as well as, athletic success at KC are noteworthy with a large number of individual and team honors.

**Closing:** As mentioned earlier, please review on our website at: [www.kaskaskia.edu](http://www.kaskaskia.edu) the detail reports from each of the College divisions. These reports are very informative and helpful in learning and understanding the various college projects and plans for the future. For financial stability we must sustain our enrollment levels. A focus on retention is important to achieve our enrollment goals. I am asking all faculty and staff to join this effort, as we all have an impact on retaining our students from their enrollment to completion. We have an exciting fall semester and 2013-14 academic year ahead of us. As you can tell from this report and the division reports, we are continuing to be progressive in serving our district. KC is a dynamic institution of higher education because of an excellent faculty and staff and a very supportive and a visionary Board of Trustees. I wish everyone a happy, healthy, safe, and successful year.

Dr. Jim Underwood, President