



COLBY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Grounded in *purpose*,
rising with *promise*.





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Rooted in the values of our region and empowered by our supporters, Colby Community College continues to shape futures with intention. This year's achievements reflect steady progress—visible in the milestones reached, the lives transformed, and the commitment to opportunity that defines our path forward.



Seth Mason Carter

Dr. Seth Carter
President

President's Message

A year of purpose and promise

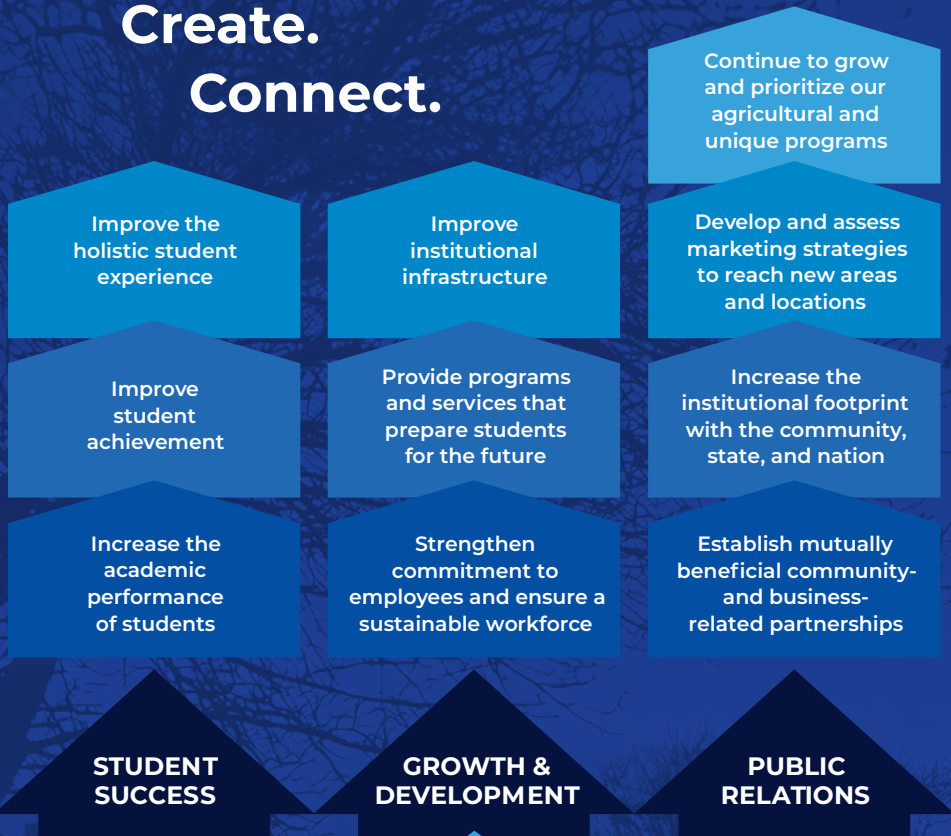
At Colby Community College, our mission is rooted in helping students reach and surpass their goals through a student-centered, holistic approach to education. Guided by our 2022–2027 Strategic Plan, we remain focused on fostering academic achievement, supporting student success, and serving our communities with purpose and integrity.

This Annual Report highlights the progress we've made over the past year and outlines key initiatives that will shape our continued growth. It reflects our unwavering commitment to planning, accountability, and advancing the mission and vision of Colby Community College.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DRIVING OUR MISSION

Rooted in our core values of Student Success, Growth and Development, and Public Relations, these priorities reflect our forward momentum and our dedication to building a stronger, more vibrant future for Colby Community College.

Challenge. Create. Connect.



Modernize Colby Community College for the 21st Century

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Academics

Criminal Justice Expo Builds Career Connections

Career exploration took center stage at the second annual Criminal Justice Expo, hosted on campus and attended by nearly 100 students from area schools who engaged with professionals shaping the future of public safety careers. The event brought together 13 employers, including law enforcement and public safety agencies from Colby, Goodland, Oakley, Norton, Garden City, WaKeeney, and Logan, as well as representatives from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The expo provided students a valuable opportunity to explore careers in criminal justice, meet professionals in the field, and learn about internship and employment options.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

- Colby Police Department
- Garden City Police Department
- Goodland Police Department
- Kansas Wildlife and Parks
- Logan/Gove County 911
- Norton Correctional Facility
- Oakley Police Department
- Options Domestic and Sexual Violence Services
- Sheridan County 911
- Sherman County 911
- Sherman County Sheriff's Office
- Thomas County Sheriff's Office
- Trego County Sheriff's Office



Students speak with officers about the challenges and rewards of working in law enforcement, gaining firsthand insight into the realities of serving their communities.



Colby students learn about the use of technology in modern law enforcement.

Meaningful exchanges like these help students connect classroom learning with real-world applications.

Academics

Colby Leads in Graduation and Retention Rates

Colby Community College again topped all Kansas community colleges in academic performance, earning the highest graduation and retention rates in the 2025 Kansas Community College Data Book, published by the Kansas Board of Regents.

With 52.9% of first-time, full-time students graduating within two years, Colby claimed the state's top graduation rate for the seventh time in ten years. The college also led Kansas in fall-to-fall retention for the third consecutive year, with 71.1% of students returning for a second year, marking the fifth time in six years Colby has led this category.

"We are elated to see our students continuing to achieve this level of success," said President Dr. Seth Carter.

"Evaluating the graduation rates of our students is one of the most telling benchmarks of student success. The college continues to help students achieve their academic goals, and this continued level of achievement illustrates that we are doing that at a truly elite level."

Colby has made substantial investments in facilities, technology, and services to support students. Enhancements include renovated housing, cafeteria, and recreational areas, along with free tutoring, counseling, and advising. The college also eases the burden of textbook costs by offering free resources for more than half of its courses and robust scholarship opportunities through the Endowment Foundation.



Nursing Program Tops Kansas in Graduate Earnings

Colby Community College's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program led all Kansas community and technical college programs in graduate earnings, according to the Kansas Training Information Program (KTIP). Graduates reported an average annual wage of \$80,224 — the highest of any program statewide.

“It is incredible that the Associate Degree Nursing program had the highest average wages among any field of study or program out of all 26 community and technical colleges in the state,” said Vice President of Academic Affairs Angel Morrison. “This high-demand, high-wage program can transform the lives of our students.”

Colby's nursing program follows a “one-plus-one” model, beginning with practical nursing and advancing to the ADN level. Applications for both programs are due March 1 each year.

Tech Ed Graduates Pass Boards

Colby Community College graduates in technical education programs achieved outstanding outcomes on their 2024 licensing exams. The Physical Therapist Assistant and Dental Hygiene programs posted perfect 100% pass rates on the CAPTE and NBDHE exams, respectively. Graduates of the Practical Nursing program earned a 96% pass rate on the NCLEX-PN. These results reflect CCC's commitment to preparing students for rewarding and in-demand fields.



Colby Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program leads the state in graduate earnings, with an average annual wage of \$80,224, the highest among Kansas community and technical colleges.



Renovations & Campus Updates

Pat's Pantry Opens to Support Students



The Pat Keiser Food Bank opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 13. Located in the Student Union, the pantry provides free food and hygiene products to students in need and is accessible during campus hours or by appointment.

The late Pat Keiser was a cherished member of the Colby community known for her dedication to service and student support. She played a key role in founding the Genesis-Thomas County Food Bank and was a longtime volunteer with local athletics, especially the CCC men's and women's basketball and softball programs. "Mama Pat," as student-athletes called her, was inducted into the CCC Alumni Hall of Fame in 2015. She passed away on Oct. 8, 2024.

"Pat's Pantry" is maintained by college staff and supported by campus and community donations.

OTHER RENOVATIONS

- Complete bathroom remodels in the Bedker Memorial Complex and lower level of the H.F. Davis Library
- New roofs on the H.F. Davis Library and the Robert Burnett Student Union
- New Air Conditioning units on the Cultural Arts Center and Student Union
- New data center in-rack cooling unit for campus servers
- Door access controls were installed on all student housing
- Thermostat controls were replaced in all of student housing
- Completed phase one of LED light upgrades

Beautification Committee Enhances College Grounds

The Colby Community College Beautification Project began in 2015 when Elaine Ptacek, recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, sought a meaningful way to give back. "I wanted to volunteer in the community and felt the college needed some plants and color," she said.

Joined by Bob Selby and Anita Hills, Ptacek helped transform the landscape north of Thomas Hall, spurred by student feedback and support from President Carter. With a design from Moonlight Gardens, the team planted flowers and shrubs and maintained the space.

The effort grew with additional volunteers Pat Erickson, Jerri and Phil Shuman, Anita Porter, Sue Evans, and Connie Evans, who enhanced the west side of Thomas Hall. By 2018, flower pots appeared across campus, and the Student Union received a colorful update, complete with a table and bench for student use.

Next, the Bedker Memorial Complex received a landscape redesign, replacing overgrown trees and bushes with vibrant, structured plantings.



In 2022, Embree Hall was updated with ornamental grasses and small trees, thanks to Diane Gerstner and Diann Gerstner.

The campus now features inviting green spaces, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers improving CCC one flower bed at a time.

Community

Judge Webb

As part of the Dr. Max Pickerill Lecture Series, Colby Community College welcomed author and former Kansas Magistrate Judge Tommy Webb on Sept. 10. Judge Webb, who overcame significant adversity after being orphaned in South Korea during the Korean War, delivered a compelling presentation highlighting his journey from hardship to becoming the first Asian judge in Kansas. Drawing from his book *Running Away and Finding Home*, he emphasized the power of kindness, resilience, and valuing others.



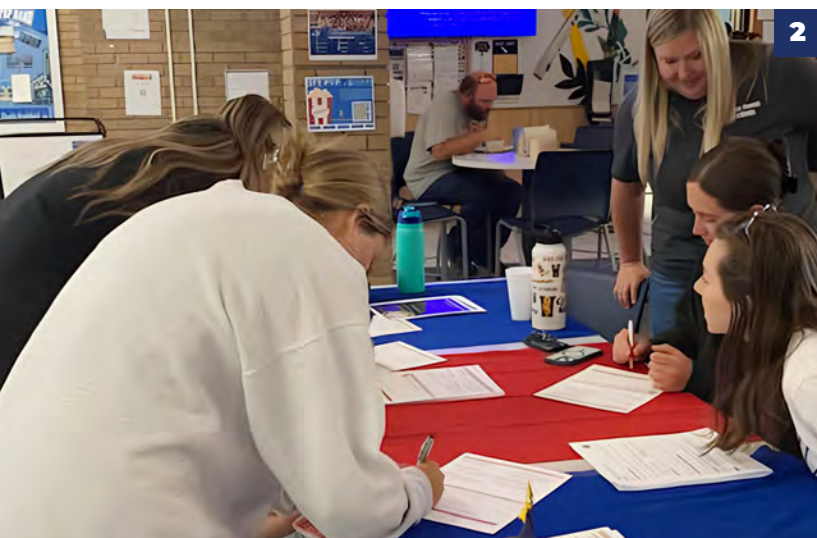
Tommy Webb, delivered an inspiring message of perseverance and purpose during his visit to Colby Community College.



Alternative Energy Gets Support from Midwest Energy

Midwest Energy partnered with Colby Community College to support the college's alternative energy program at the Norton Correctional Facility. In December, Midwest Energy's Mike Morley presented a \$6,000 check to CCC. The funds, allocated through the federal Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) grant, were used to purchase personal protective equipment for program participants. The collaboration with Midwest Energy will continue throughout the five-year GRIP grant.

CCC began offering wind and solar energy courses at NCF in 2020. The program provides opportunities for incarcerated students to earn certificates and an associate degree in alternative energy.



1. TRUNK OR TREAT

CCC staff participated in the Brewster School District's Trunk or Treat on Halloween, handing out candy and CCC gear.

2. FARM BUREAU ASSISTS VOTERS

In the fall semester, the CCC Farm Bureau Chapter helped Thomas County Clerk Keesa Mariman register voters for the November election.

Athletics

Baseball Honors

Colby shortstop Isaiah Padilla was the KJCCC West Most Valuable Player after leading the division in batting average (.458), tying for home runs (17), and finishing second in RBI. Padilla was also a first-team All-Region VI selection and NJCAA Second Team All-American.

Freshman Turner Zdunich was named the conference Freshman of the Year, batting .407 with 57 RBI. The Alberta native also pitched 36.2 innings, striking out 39 with three wins and two saves.

Coach Ryan Carter was named Coach of the Year after leading Colby to a fourth-place finish and earning a home playoff series. The Trojans hit .316 with a .421 on-base percentage, and were the only program in the division to exceed its preseason coaches' poll projection. Carter also picked up his 700th career win during his 24th season leading the Trojans.



Volleyball Places Third in Nation

The Trojans volleyball team defeated sixth-seeded Barton Community College to claim 3rd place at the NJCAA Division I Volleyball National Championship on Nov. 22 in Clarksville, TN.

Colby entered the tournament as the 13-seed and went 3-1, including victories over fourth-ranked Blinn College and fifth-ranked Northeastern Junior College. The third-place finish is the best in program history, as the Trojans finished with a record of 29-5.

Women's Wrestling Comes to CCC

Colby Community College will launch a women's wrestling program beginning competition in fall 2025. The Trojans will compete in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), facing other two-year colleges across the country. The addition makes Colby the second Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference (KJCCC) member to offer women's wrestling, one of the fastest-growing sports in college athletics.



EQUESTRIAN TEAM PLACES AT NATIONALS

The equestrian western squad qualified for the Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association (IHSA) National Championships for the first time in school history. In May, the team competed at Tryon International in Mill Spring, N.C., where they finished 10th in the nation.

Four Colby track athletes earned All-American honors in six events at nationals

On the men's side, sophomore Sibonelo Khumalo placed third in the 10,000m (29:40.21) and fourth in the 5,000m (14:24.98), earning Region 6 Men's Track Athlete of the Meet. Kenan Delestre finished second in the 3,000m steeplechase (8:58.77) in just his fourth collegiate attempt.

For the women, Rosemary Arthur placed third in the 800m with a personal-best 2:07.61, the fourth-fastest time in NJCAA history, and earned another All-American honor with a fourth-place finish in the 1,500m. Anita Afrifa claimed second in the 200m (22.95), the second-fastest NJCAA time this season.

Athletics Excel Academically

CCC student-athletes continued the tradition of outstanding classroom performance, earning a cumulative GPA of 3.26 across all programs.

Softball led all teams with a stellar 3.82 overall GPA, followed by volleyball at 3.77. Men's and women's basketball also posted strong academic marks, each finishing above a 3.50 GPA. In total, six teams ended the year with GPAs above 3.30, reflecting the college's strong commitment to academic success for student-athletes.



Softball Lands Six on All-KJCCC Team

Six Colby Community College softball players earned All-KJCCC Honorable Mention honors in 2025. Paige Pierce was recognized as a utility player, hitting .350 with 50 hits and 15 stolen bases. Outfielder Tess Polad hit .381 with 59 hits and ranked second in the KJCCC in triples. Infielder Sofia Valenti posted a .433 average with 96 total bases and tied for 10th in RBIs. Fellow infielder Kinleigh Haskell hit .347 with five home runs in 34 games. Pitcher Katelyn Zukewich recorded a 2.66 ERA, the second-best in the conference. Giovana Villalobos Carrillo earned recognition with 59 strikeouts and a top-10 KJCCC ranking in strikeouts per seven innings.

Overall, the Trojans had a record of 31-27 under first-year coach Jazmine Esparza.

Awards & Recognition



From left, Beatrice Gates, Wick and Bernice Bohannon, Dr. Gary Schultz, and Sheila Krehbiel.

2024 Hall of Fame Inductees Recognized

Colby Community College announced five new inductees into its Hall of Fame, honoring individuals whose excellence and service have left a lasting impact on the college and broader community. The 2024 class includes softball standout Lynnette Bohannon, basketball legend Curtis Gates, community leaders Kenton and Sheila Krehbiel, and longtime coach and administrator Dr. Gary Schultz. A reception and ceremony were held on Dec. 7 after the men's basketball game at the Colby Event Center.

Lynnette “Bo” Bohannon

A 2000 CCC softball All-American, Bohannon set multiple school records that still stand, including single-season hits (99) and career triples (13). After CCC, she continued her athletic and academic journey at the University at Albany, SUNY. Her post-college life included work as a truck driver, sign language interpreter, and Reiki

master. She passed away in 2023 at age 43, remembered for her courage, kindness, and uplifting spirit.

Curtis “Pearly” Gates

Gates remains CCC's all-time basketball scoring leader with 1,529 points. Known for his electrifying dunks and scoring prowess, he helped lead the Trojans to a 28-5 record in 1985. After graduating, he played at the University of Central Florida and later appeared in the documentary *Hoop Dreams*. Gates was tragically killed in 2001 at age 36 but is remembered as one of Colby's greatest athletes.

Kenton and Sheila Krehbiel

Lifelong supporters of CCC and the Colby community, the Krehbiels were known for their volunteerism, leadership, and student engagement. Kenton served on the CCC Board of Trustees for over 30 years, playing a key role in campus development and leadership hires. Sheila contributed through banking,

education, and long-term service with local charities.

The couple's legacy continues through scholarships and community initiatives, including an inclusive playground project in Kenton's memory.

Dr. Gary Schultz

Schultz spent 24 years at CCC as a coach, financial aid director, and dean of students. He founded the college's first women's track program and led his teams to numerous records. His administrative leadership contributed to record enrollments and successful accreditation efforts. Schultz also served in national education leadership roles and remains active in retirement through cycling, golf, and community service.

The CCC Hall of Fame, established in 2012, honors individuals who have significantly impacted the college or achieved distinction after their time at CCC. The complete list of inductees is at www.colbycc.edu/hof.

Honorary Degree Awarded to Former Mayor Gary Adrian



Gary Adrian
Former Colby Mayor

Colby Community College awarded former Colby mayor Gary Adrian an honorary associate degree during the college's 60th commencement ceremony on May 16 at the Colby Event Center. The recognition honored Adrian's longstanding contributions to both the community and the college.

Adrian, born in Colby in 1947, traced his roots to the area's early settlers and maintained deep ties to the community. After attending school in Colby and Norton, he pursued higher education at Fort Hays State University and the University of Kansas before serving in the U.S. Army, where he trained as a medical technologist. Following his 20-year military career, he returned to northwest Kansas and worked in local hospitals until retiring in 2006.

In 2011, Adrian was elected mayor of the City of Colby, serving three terms through December 2023.

"Blessed with three outstanding city managers and dedicated city council members, many major accomplishments were made," said Adrian.

The most significant project, he added, was the planning and construction of the Colby Event Center that opened in 2021.

"I am so proud of my hometown, Colby," Adrian said. "Colby Community College is one of the essential factors for the successful growth and future of Colby. It is an honor to receive this honorary degree from CCC."

Colby Students Earn Prestigious Scholarships to Fort Hays State

Colby Community College spring 2025 graduate Jaylei Sloan and 2021 alumna Gabrielle Hammer were awarded distinguished scholarships from Fort Hays State University (FHSU) to advance their careers in science and education.

The scholarships were part of FHSU's Noyce project, a collaboration with Colby and other Kansas community colleges aimed at recruiting STEM majors into teaching roles in high-needs communities.

Sloan, who graduated with a biology degree, received the Noyce CREST (Creating Retention and Engagement for STEM Teachers) scholarship—a renewable \$15,000 award for future STEM educators pursuing a bachelor's degree.

Hammer, a high school science teacher in Sharon Springs, received the Noyce Post Baccalaureate STEM Teacher Licensure Scholarship. The competitive program provides a \$24,788 stipend to individuals with a bachelor's degree in science or mathematics who are pursuing a teaching career. After earning associate of science and applied science degrees from Colby, Hammer completed a bachelor's degree in general biology from FHSU in 2023.



Batie Recognized with Tangeman Award

During the 2025 commencement ceremony, Colby Community College honored nursing instructor and alumna Macey Batie with the Tangeman Award for Teaching Excellence. Batie is a CCC graduate and has been a full-time faculty member since 2022.

"I absolutely love being a nursing instructor because it allows me to inspire and guide the next generation of compassionate, skilled healthcare professionals," she said. "There's nothing more rewarding than watching students grow in confidence and competence, knowing that the knowledge and support I provide today will impact countless lives tomorrow."



President Seth Carter addresses a crowd outside the Robert Burnett Student Union on Sept. 21 during the college's 60th anniversary celebration.



60 Years of Education

In celebration of Colby Community College's 60th anniversary, the college hosted a public event on Sept. 21. Attendees received commemorative T-shirts and enjoyed a variety of activities, including youth games, bouncy houses, a photo booth, campus and farm tours, and a free meal and ice cream bar.

The men's basketball team held an open practice at the Colby Event Center while the baseball team played home games on the City of Colby Fields.

The celebration marked a significant milestone in CCC's history. Founded in 1964 as Colby Community Junior College, the institution began with 119 students attending classes at Colby Junior High School.

By 1968, the college moved to its current location on South Range Avenue, where four initial buildings were constructed at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million. In 1972, the college earned its first multiyear accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Six decades later, CCC evolved into a leading academic institution, drawing more than 2,250 students from 31 countries in 2025. The college has led the state in graduation rates for seven of the last ten years and ranked first in fall-to-fall retention for five of the past six years. It is the only community college in Kansas to experience consistent enrollment growth since 2014.



60 MINUTES OF COMMUNITY

In September, Trojan students, faculty, and staff collaborated with local groups and organizations to provide 60 minutes of service in various locations. The outreach was a way to thank the community for its support of higher education in Colby for 60 years.

Students

Project Eden

Project Eden is a student-led initiative at Colby Community College focused on community service, sustainability, and student wellness. Founded by students Dylan Marks and Daniel Mills, the project emphasizes giving back through gardening. Students grow vegetables and flowers, donating the harvest to local food banks, college staff, and nursing home residents in Colby.

Built on the principle of service, Project Eden also aims to expand into a year-round greenhouse and eventually become part of the college curriculum, similar to existing hands-on courses. The initiative not only teaches students practical agricultural skills but also promotes mental well-being.



PTK Outdoor Study Area

Colby’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Rho Iota, raised \$678 toward a new outdoor lounge and study area. The project, three years in development, included gathering feedback, organizing plans, and securing approval. Materials have been ordered, and the 2025-26 chapter will complete installation. A Colby Trojan yard sign from the group’s first fundraiser will mark the space, which will be expanded as needed.

Rho Iota earned REACH Rewards status by completing “Invite, Engage, and Follow-Up” goals. For its Honors in Action project, the chapter partnered with the Eden Project to build a garden and will collect stories of perseverance during harvest.

People

Faculty Farewell – Doris Donovan Retires

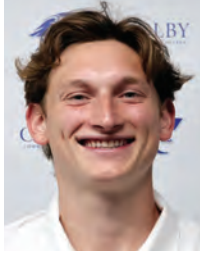


Business instructor Doris Donovan retired after five years at Colby Community College. A Certified Public Accountant with a distinguished career in business and education, she joined CCC after holding positions at Dodge City, Seward County, and Highland community colleges, as well as leadership roles in both the private and nonprofit sectors.

Originally planning a three-year stay, she remained longer due to CCC’s supportive environment.

“I have worked in the accounting field all my life, but in all the jobs I’ve had, teaching has been my favorite,” she said. “I will truly miss interacting with the students in the classroom.”

People



Jacob Lawson

Jacob Lawson was hired as the institution's first full-time assistant athletic director and sports information director in June 2025. A San Diego native, Lawson brings experience from Fort Hays State University, where he served as sports information graduate assistant while earning a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management with a minor in Business. He also completed a full-time communications internship at the University of Kansas. Lawson will support all 14 varsity programs and lead efforts in game day operations, digital content, and athletic communications, helping enhance engagement with Trojan Athletics as the department builds momentum entering the 2025-26 academic year.



Michael Ruiz

Michael Ruiz was announced as the inaugural head women's wrestling coach in January 2025. He brings extensive experience from high school and collegiate programs, most recently serving at Benedictine College. A former two-time NAIA All-American and California Junior College All-American, Ruiz is recognized for his ability to foster both athletic performance and personal growth in his athletes. He looks forward to recruiting the program's first team and building a lasting legacy at CCC.



Justin Villmer

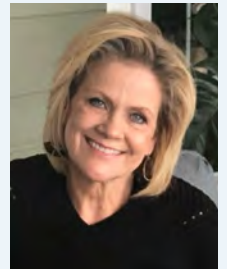
In February, CCC welcomed the return of Vice President of Finance and Operations Justin Villmer, who served at CCC in 2021-2022. He left Colby to become the president of Dawson Community College in Glendive, MT, and later served as the director of finance at USD 308 in Hutchinson. He began his career in banking and public accounting and entered higher education as the accounting manager at Hutchinson Community College. He was also the assistant dean and director of finance for Washburn University Institute of Technology. Villmer holds a bachelor's degree in business and a Master of Accountancy from Emporia State University.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Colby Community College mourns the loss of two esteemed faculty members who dedicated decades of service to our institution. Their contributions enriched countless lives, and they will be deeply missed.



Michael Thompson
2001–2024
Criminal Justice and Behavioral Sciences Instructor



Jeanne Cox
1991–2024
Adjunct Art Instructor



Sandra Glover

Colby Community College welcomed Sandra Glover as head coach of the Trojan Track and Field program in July. A former Olympian and world medalist, Glover

brings a distinguished athletic and coaching background, including success at the University of Houston, Western New Mexico University, and other institutions. Her athletes have earned NCAA All-American honors, conference championships, and school records. Glover emphasizes academic and athletic excellence, mentorship, and the development of student-athletes. As she takes the helm of both men's and women's programs, her leadership is expected to elevate the Trojans' competitive presence and reinforce Colby's commitment to student success on and off the track.

Endowment Foundation



60 for 60 Campaign

When the Colby 60 for 60 Campaign launched last year, the goal was bold—to establish 60 new endowed scholarships in honor of the College’s 60th anniversary. It was an ambitious undertaking, but one rooted in real need. As more students turn to scholarships to help make college possible and the enrollment at CCC continues to grow, we know expanding our support is more important than ever.

The response from donors has been remarkable. What began as a one-year goal quickly grew into something bigger. By the end of this fiscal year, the number of new and pledged scholarships had passed 100, a milestone we didn’t anticipate reaching so soon.

The second year of the campaign has been filled with meaningful moments. We’ve seen a growing number

of applications, each one reflecting the determination and potential of our students. At the same time, we’ve continued working with donors who are creating scholarships for various reasons—some to honor a loved one, others to give back to a place that has shaped their own path.

Each new scholarship is more than a fund; it’s a message to a student that someone believes in them. And every story behind these gifts adds to the shared sense of purpose that drives our work forward.

As we move into a new fiscal year, the campaign continues. The need remains, and so does the momentum.

Employee Opportunities

CCC employees seeking advanced degrees and training can offset costs through scholarships provided by the Foundation. Over the last year, allocations from the Hinder Fund, Pete Henry Professorship, and Garvey Fund provided \$14,650 for faculty and staff to enhance their careers.

Since 2015, nearly \$115,000 has been dispersed from these funds to assist with professional development opportunities.

Enrollment

Fall 2024, Spring 2025 and Summer 2025

Total Credits: **30,983** (2023-24: 30,405.50) +1.9%

Online Credits: **15,414** (2023-24: 15,204)

AGE BREAKDOWN

Range	Headcount	Percentage
High School - Under 18	657	29%
Traditional (18-24)	1,121	49%
Non-traditional (25 and older)	492	22%
Total	2,270	100%

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

Countries represented:

29

Headcount:

99

Australia	4	Ghana	5
Austria	1	Guinea	1
Bahamas	16	Honduras	1
Brazil	4	Hungary	3
Cameroon	1	Italy	3
Canada	27	Jamaica	1
China	10	Kenya	5
Colombia	1	Mexico	2
Croatia	1	New Zealand	2
Denmark	2	Philippines	1
Egypt	1	Rwanda	1
Estonia	1	Serbia	1
France	5	South Africa	4
Gabon	1	Turkey	2
Germany	2		

COLBY COMMITMENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SPRING 2024 AND 2024-2025

Credits/Scholarships by Year	Credits	Total Awarded
Spring/Summer 2024	954	\$114,958.78
AY 2024-2025	5,128	\$503,080.43
Total	6,082	\$617,925.90
Unique Headcount		598

Tuition, fees, and books for qualifying high school students.

County	Students Served	Credits	Total Awarded
Cheyenne	25	154	\$14,859.90
Decatur	23	133	\$11,040.84
Gove	23	220	\$19,885.10
Graham	24	185	\$15,788.62
Logan	29	297	\$26,372.81
Norton	74	731	\$70,205.11
Phillips	57	702	\$60,649.88
Rawlins	24	186	\$14,934.16
Rooks	61	699	\$62,687.79
Sherman	10	46	\$3,744.81
Sheridan	37	214	\$19,188.82
Thomas	174	2,127	\$265,750.33
Trego	27	319	\$26,471.98
Wallace	9	48	\$3,834.00
Grand Total	598	6,082	\$617,925.90

Finances

FISCAL PERFORMANCE

	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Operating Revenues	\$ 9,770,750	\$ 10,606,202	\$ 8,232,146	\$ 9,088,190
Non-Operating Revenues	\$ 10,078,890	\$ 11,676,389	\$ 12,564,734	\$ 13,263,852
Operating Expenses	\$ (17,074,879)	\$ (17,243,314)	\$ (16,961,513)	\$ (17,704,023)
Change in Net Position	\$ 2,774,761	\$ 5,039,277	\$ 3,835,367	\$ 4,648,018

INVESTMENT IN ASSETS

FY2023	\$14,220,434
FY2024	\$17,487,956
FY2025	\$18,142,816

CASH RESERVES

FY2022	\$18,083,692
FY2023	\$19,500,000
FY2024	\$19,866,360
FY2025	\$22,005,082

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Current Unrestricted Funds <i>(Regulatory Basis as of June 30)</i>	\$8,457,125	\$10,819,426	\$13,466,454	\$15,019,733	\$18,083,692	\$19,347,802	\$19,570,171	\$19,866,360
CFI	3.87	4.24	6.37	6.73	7.29	6.96	8.85	9.09
% Increase Unrestricted	24%	28%	24%	11.53%	16.9%	6.5%	1.1%	1.5%

The Composite Financial Index (CFI) is a numerical indicator that ranges from -4.0 to 10.0, signifying the financial well-being of an institution. The CFI is determined by the regional accrediting body, the Higher Learning Commission. “% Increase Unrestricted” reflects the increase in unrestricted funds on a year-to-year basis.

COLBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE MILL LEVY 2015-2025

Year	Mill Rate	Decrease/Increase	Year	Amount Levied	Decrease/Increase
2015	46.781	N/A	2015	\$5,333,232	N/A
2016	46.764	-0.017	2016	\$5,628,387	\$295,155
2017	46.819	0.055	2017	\$6,116,591	\$488,204
2018	45.123	-1.696	2018	\$6,255,727	\$139,136
2019	43.954	-1.169	2019	\$6,529,756	\$274,029
2020	41.776	-2.178	2020	\$6,229,203	-\$300,553
2021	41.150	-0.626	2021	\$6,074,782	-\$154,421
2022	40.675	-0.475	2022	\$6,213,889	\$139,107
2023	39.869	-0.806	2023	\$6,277,374	\$63,485
2024	39.446	-0.423	2024	\$6,289,206	\$11,832
2025	38.897*	-0.549	2025	\$6,220,897*	-\$68,309

*Proposed Mill Decrease During this Period-(-7.884)

*Proposed amount, not finalized.

Colby Community College levies fewer local tax dollars than in 2018, and the mill levy rate is lower than in 2012.

CCC Board of Trustees

Meet the Board

Colby Community College is governed by a dedicated six-member Board of Trustees, all residents of Thomas County, who serve the college and the community without remuneration. The board members exhibit diligence, patience, and dependability in advancing the interests of the college and its many constituents in northwest Kansas.

Each trustee brings a unique perspective from their professional and civic backgrounds, ensuring that community voices are well represented in the college's leadership. The Board of Trustees plays a critical role in providing strategic direction and oversight, working closely with the college administration to set policies, ensure sound financial management, and uphold CCC's mission of student success.

Through monthly meetings, the trustees review progress, discuss future plans, and foster partnerships that benefit both the college and the community. Their leadership ensures that Colby Community College remains responsive to community needs, thriving as a regional hub for education and opportunity.



Patrick Toth
Chair
(2024-2028)



Jessica Vaughn
Vice Chair
(2022-2026)



Arlen Leiker
KACCT Representative
(2024-2028)



Audrey Hines
Treasurer
(2022-2026)



Donna Henry
Endowment Representative
(2022-2026)



Zack Odell
(2024-2028)



▶ Mission

CHALLENGE students to adapt to a diverse society.

CREATE opportunities for student growth.

CONNECT student learning with professional experiences.

▶ Vision

CCC will be a national leader in academics and student success to transform lives in the communities we serve.

Colby Community College is a two-year public institution of higher education. Located in Colby, Kansas, the college is situated in the northwest part of the state in Thomas County and is approximately 50 miles from the Nebraska and Colorado borders. Once known as the Golden Buckle on the Wheat Belt, Thomas County is now also a leader in sustainable agriculture. Although not the largest county in the state by acres, Thomas County has more farmable acres than any other county in Kansas.

From a humble beginning of 99 students in 1964, CCC now serves over 2,200 students annually. The institution provides a diversity of academic options and has highly qualified and caring faculty and staff. In addition to a 57-acre main campus, CCC has a 60-acre farm utilized as a hands-on laboratory and training facility.

The college also accommodates off-campus students nationwide through face-to-face, online, and hybrid courses. A number of studies (from SmartAsset, WalletHub, the Aspen Institute, and the Chronicle of Higher Education) conclude CCC is a solid educational investment and it is consistently a peer leader in graduation and retention rates.

Colby Community College is governed by an elected, committed six-member Board of Trustees.

Thanks to Our Supporters

We are deeply grateful to the individuals, families, businesses, and organizations that support Colby Community College. Your generosity helps us enhance educational opportunities, empower students, and strengthen our community. Thank you for being an essential part of the Colby family and for making a lasting impact on the lives of our students.

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