

Annual Report //2017-18





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## » A Place for Growth

always love the energy around the college that comes with the start of fall classes each year. I try to find more time to be around campus and with the students those first few weeks to experience that enthusiasm.

I'll see students unpacking their belongings by the car-full into their residence hall rooms. I'll see friendships beginning to blossom and I'll see incoming students becoming acquainted with our campus, faculty, and staff. In those few weeks, I see people finding their home for the next 10 months.

Their bounds of optimism is contagious and inspiring. It also provides a nice reminder of how special of a role Western Nebraska Community College plays in these young - or sometimes older - people's lives. Their sense of positivity is refreshing, especially as that sense is so often lost in the outside world.

Each year, the split in our society seems to widen. We remain rooted in our issues and refuse to give an inch. We listen less and argue more, and our default continues to be tearing each other down.

Despite the lack of civility that increasingly plagues our society, I'm proud to say WNCC will always be a place where we build each other up. We will always be a place of learning, a place of acceptance, and a place of growth.

Coming together to grow together has long been part of WNCC's philosophy, and is no more apparent than the advances happening around our campuses, such as the Scottsbluff Campus renovation, the new Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center on the Sidney Campus, and the addition of an indoor facility for the Powerline & Construction Maintenance program in Alliance.

So, as you learn more about WNCC and our Cougar family, I encourage your eagerness to grow with us.

Respectfully,

Dr. Todd Holcomb, Ed.D., President

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### **Mission Statement**

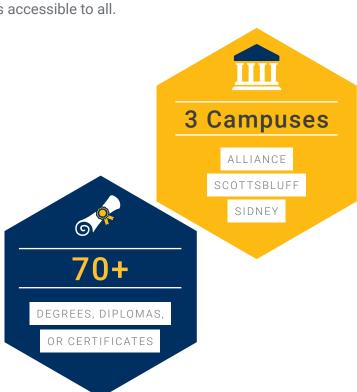
WNCC assures learning opportunities for all – **enriching** lives, **invigorating** communities, **creating** futures.

### **Vision Statement**

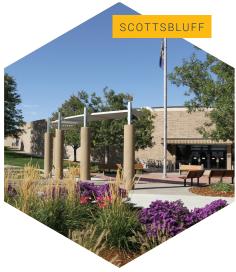
To positively impact the education and well-being of every student, employer, and community member in the Nebraska Panhandle region.

### **Values**

- · Lifelong Learning
- Student and Community Service
- Honesty, Integrity, and Transparency
- Collaboration and Communication
- Innovation and Continuous Improvement
- Respect for All People and Perspectives

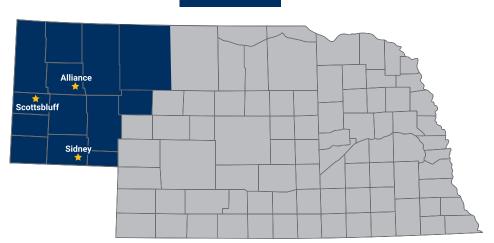














### **CAMPUS HOUSING**

SCOTTSBLUFF SIDNEY

SERVING

## 93,000

17,000 SQUARE MILES

12 ½ COUNTIES





24

AVERAGE AGE OF

FULL-TIME STUDENTS

RANKED TOP 25

### **BEST FOR VETS**

8 YEARS RUNNING BY

MILITARY TIMES



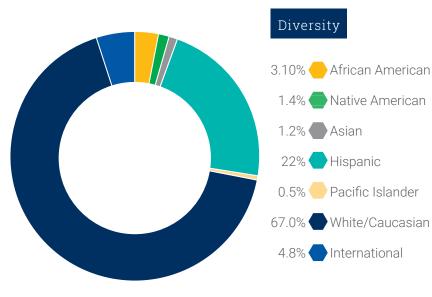
Shelby Benson

Curtis, Nebraska

Phi Theta Kappa president Surgical Technology Expected May 2019

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I realized if the faculty and staff trust and believe in me, then I should believe in myself."





Peyton Stanczyk

Oshkosh, Nebraska

CollegeNOW! Student Garden County High School, 2018



Taking WNCC's
CollegeNOW! courses
have set me up to handle
challenges I will face
later on "





Lexie Trimble

Arthur, Nebraska

**Residence Hall Assistant**Early Elementary Education, 2018



I was a very shy person, so I had to force myself to meet new people and make new friends."

# » Athletics





Education isn't contained to a classroom. WNCC faculty and staff are proactive in creating learning and growing opportunities for students in the community and around the region.

#### **Alternative Spring Break**

In March, nine WNCC students spend their spring break volunteering and giving back to Panhandle communities. A few of the projects from the week included stocking and staffing a food pantry, shopping for senior citizens through a Meals on Wheels program, cooking and serving lasagna lunch at a community center, and leaving extra detergent at a local laundromat.

### **Powerline Students Help With Tornado Cleanup**

After a tornado devastated the Bayard community last summer, students in the Powerline & Construction Maintenance program chipped in to help with clean-up efforts and receive vital real-life training.

### Softball Helped at Veterans Stand Down

WNCC softball students thanked regional veterans and helped distribute supplies at the Scottsbluff Stand Down event in April.

#### Ag Students Teach Ag Day

In conjunction with Agriculture Reading Hour, Applied Agriculture Technologies students took time to read and teach elementary students about the importance of agriculture.

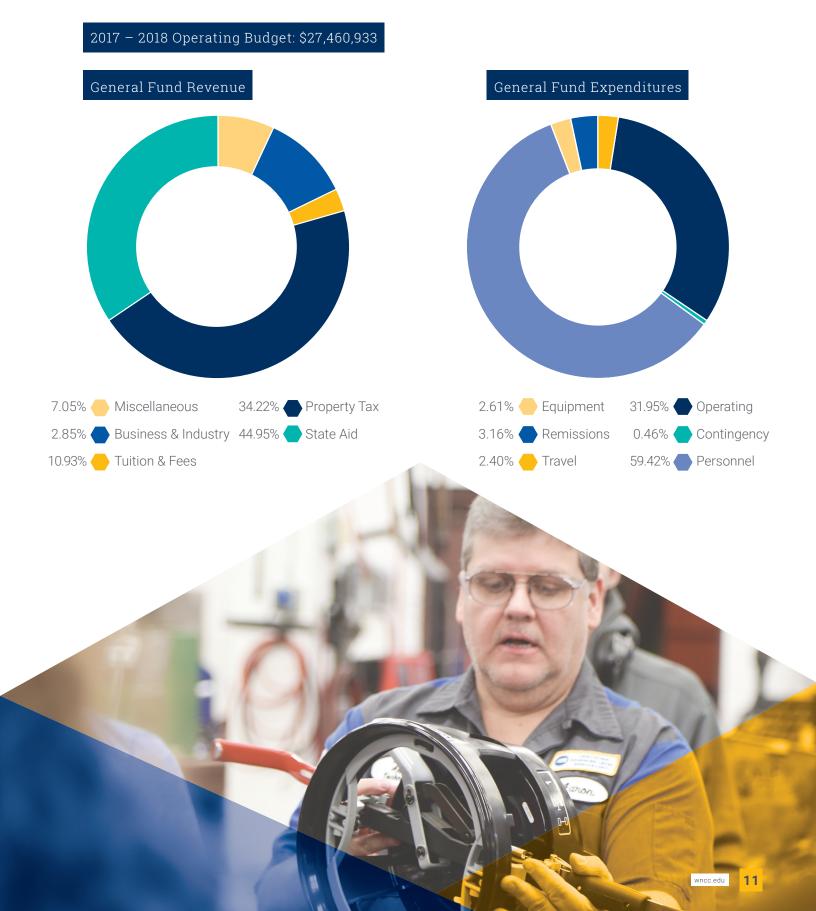


# » Impact & Budget

WNCC plays a vital role not only in the lives of its students, but also as a main contributor in the area's economy. WNCC prides itself on being a fiscally responsible institution, prioritizing its resources to help strengthen its vibrant communities. Recently, an independent study found WNCC creates more tax revenue than it takes. Learn more about WNCC's economic impact by visiting https://www.wncc.edu/about-wncc/institutional-effectiveness/economic-impact-studies



\*According to study conducted by Emsi in 2018 for the 2015-16 fiscal year. WNCC continues to foster our vision of positively impacting the education and well-being of the residents of the Nebraska Panhandle. One of the ways we do that is through economic development. WNCC continues to serve as one of the largest employers in the region. In fact, the majority of the 2016-17 operating budget – 59.95 percent – went toward employee salaries and benefits.



## » Growth

The future of WNCC is now. Following a comprehensive facility condition assessment and detailed discussion with community leaders, WNCC unveiled plans and began construction on a \$17.33 million renovation on the Scottsbluff Campus that will reshape the face and efficiency of the College. Based on feedback from the community, which fed into a college master plan, the renovation would highlight three areas – a performing arts center, a student success center, and a learning commons. The renovation, however, wouldn't be possible without the efforts made through WNCC's first comprehensive campaign, WNCC Works Expanding the Possibilities. The campaign raised more than \$9.6 million from more than 1,100 donors.



Platte Valley Companies Performing Arts Center: WNCC is proud to be a hub for arts and cultural enrichment in the Nebraska Panhandle. Now, we are thrilled to bring the new Platte Valley Companies Performing Arts Center and Judy Chaloupka Theater to that already vibrant scene. The new space will bring a state-of-the-art facility to a state-of-the-art community. The center will include a roundtable stage, comfortable seating, and premiere sound quality.

**Howard Olsen Student Success Center**: Named after Howard P. Olsen, a former long-time WNCC Foundation Board President, the new student success center is aimed at creating a seamless experience for students. It will serve as a one-stop-shop for students with financial aid, counseling, and advising all housed in the center.

**Learning Commons**: The newly created Learning Commons will provide students an area to gather, collaborate, study, and socialize. The space will include a bookstore and café, giving students a more robust college experience.

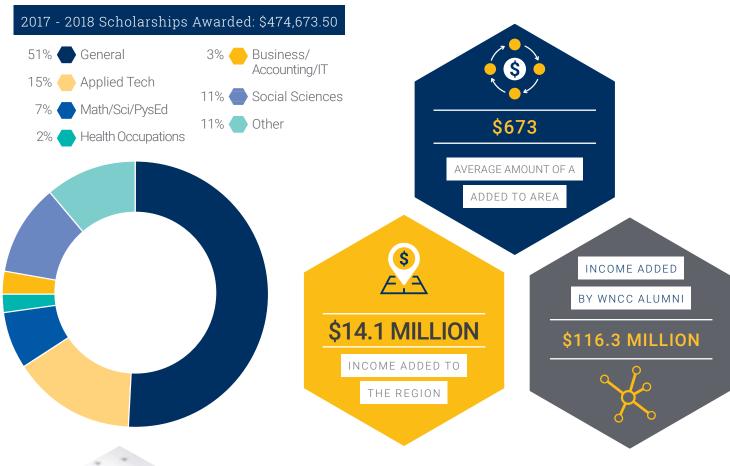
Additionally, WNCC completed construction on an indoor facility for the Powerline Construction & Maintenance Technology program. The new indoor facility will allow students within the program to train seamlessly without concerns of battling inclement weather. The building includes 50-foot tall ceilings and dirt flooring to accommodate powerline poles, and was funded by the Expanding the Possibilities campaign. Notably, the project was sourced and completed entirely by area businesses.

WNCC also made steps to ease transportation outside of campus by funding free bus far for all students, faculty, and staff with their ID through the Tri-City Roadrunner Bus service. The route, which makes stops on the Scottsbluff Campus allows WNCC students and employees easier access to a number of amenities throughout Scottsbluff, Gering, and Terrytown.



### » Foundation

An education at WNCC represents many things to our students. For some, it's the first step in their educational journey. For others, it's an avenue to gain the skills needed to land their dream career. The WNCC Foundation strives to help make those a reality for our students. Student support and student success remains a top priority in the WNCC Foundation's mission, which is no more apparent than the scholarships the Foundation awards annually.





Carson Reuter

Bridgeport, Nebraska

Auto Body Technology, 2017

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I have learned a lot at WNCC. I'm studying auto tech and my scholarship program has taught me about work ethics employers are looking for and tips I can use to be a good employee in my field."

### **2018 WNCC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Judy Chaloupka, *President*Kevin L. Kelley, *Vice President*Rick Tuggle, *Treasurer*J. Scott Wentz, *Secretary*Karen Anderson, *Ex-Officio*Matt Benzel
Dan Carter
Jordan Colwell
Jane Fliesbach

Dr. John Harms
Dr. Todd Holcomb, Ex-Officio
Thomas T. Holyoke
Cyndi Neuwirth
Steve Olsen
Elaine Pile
Steven E. Plummer
Ryan Reiber

Don Roth

Jodi Ruzicka
Crystal Sandberg
Richard Stickney, Ex-Officio
Stan Walker
Gary E. Warner
Mark A. Wickard
Dr. Daryl Wills
Patty Winkler

#### **EMERITUS DIRECTORS**

Daniel Griess Howard P. Olsen, Jr. John P. Stinner, Sr.

- \* Daniel Griess term ended NOV 2016
- \* Travis Hiner term ended APR 2017
- \* Timothy H. Daniels term ended JUN 2017

# » Alumni

The alumni network at WNCC stretches across the country and across the world. Former Cougars have gone on to leave their mark, accomplishing milestones like earning NASA fellowships, creating a successful start-up business, playing in the NBA and NFL, and serving on boards at the state and local level. Perhaps the most important WNCC alumni achievement, however, is the added economical boost they provide to our communities.

### No Place Like Homecoming

The Alumni Association hosted its fourth annual banquet during WNCC's Wizard of Oz-themed Homecoming. Attendees had an opportunity to explore trade simulators and learn more about the Applied Agriculture Technologies program.

### **Alumni Connecting with Students**

The Alumni Association filed free state and federal tax returns for 102 students through its campus IRS VITA site resulting in \$83,946 in refunds to students.

#### **Historic Training**

Student ambassadors and resident assistants had the opportunity to learn about WNCC's 90-year history through a history presentation at orientation. Notable milestones through the decades were shared through the eyes of our alumni stories.

### 2017 - 2018 Alumni Banquet Awards

**Lifetime Achievement** 

Dr. Guy Wylie

**Cara Perkins Meritorious Service** 

Ms. Tami Lippstreu

Family Pride

Kevin Kelley Family

Friend of the College Bob and Elaine Pile

2,074 jobs in the

region supported by

WNCC Alumni



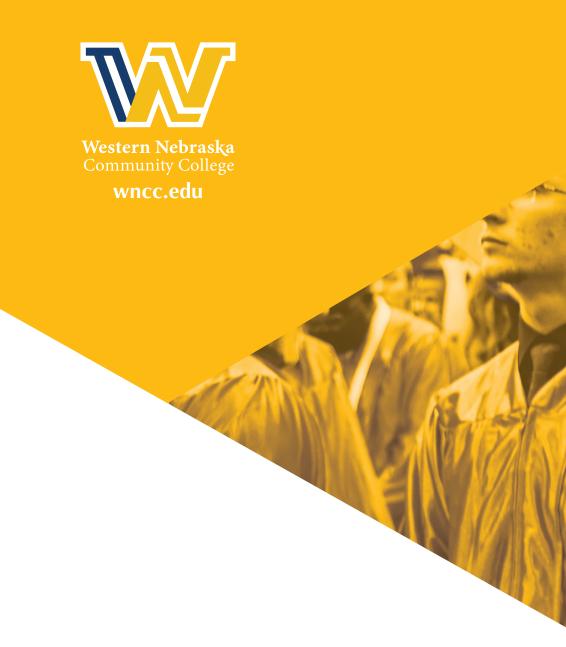
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My family was very poor and my mom really encouraged me to get an education. I needed an education to get a good job. I'm grateful for my time an connections I made at the College."

Outstanding Alumnus

Colonel Robert Mitchell

**Outstanding Young Alumnus**Ms. Angela Kembel



### **Alliance Campus**

1750 Sweetwater Avenue Alliance, NE 69301 308.763.2000 888.559.9622

### **Scottsbluff Campus**

1601 E. 27<sup>th</sup> Street Scottsbluff, NE 69361 308.635.3606 800.348.4435

### **Sidney Campus**

371 College Drive Sidney, NE 69162 308.254.5450 800.222.9682