WE’VE GOT YOU COVERED
MISSION

AS A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE QUALITY
EDUCATION AND TO ECONOMICALLY ENHANCE
THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.
The year 2020 was unlike anything many of us have ever experienced. We faced, and continue to face, a global pandemic that has brought fear, pain, loss, isolation and uncertainty to our students and our communities. Yet we persevered. As Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) maneuvered through an unprecedented year, we embraced capabilities, tools, and techniques that helped us enhance our students’ successes now and in the future.

I am so proud of our faculty and staff for the way they took care of our students. They transitioned to virtual learning, found creative and innovative ways to assist each student, and did everything they could to create a safe environment.

As I look toward 2021 and beyond, I know we will continue to grow and learn as an institution. It is an honor to help our students and communities navigate the complexities of the twenty-first century.

Sincerely,
Terry A. Murrell, Ph.D.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Robert Rasmus  
Board President  
District III  
Sioux City, IA

Russell Wray  
Board Vice President  
District VIII  
Mapleton, IA

Neal Adler  
District I  
Le Mars, IA

Curt Johnson  
District II  
Cherokee, IA

William Lyle  
District IV  
Sioux City, IA

Tricia Sutherland  
District V  
Sioux City, IA

Jeremy Ogle  
District VI  
Sioux City, IA

Lillyan Rodriguez  
District VII  
Lawton, IA

Derrick Franck  
District IX  
Denison, IA

Dr. Terry Murrell  
President  
Western Iowa Tech Community College
NEW FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

Kara Bral  
Nursing Instructor

Lilian Castro  
Director of Special Programs

Jedediah Gallagher  
Mechanical Engineering Technology Instructor

Amanda Heilman  
Administrative Program Coordinator  
Physical Therapist Assistant

Gabriella McDermott  
Nursing Instructor

Teresa McElroy  
Director of Advising, Counseling and Disability Services

Brenda Meyer  
Director of Student Support Services & Adult Education & Literacy

Debbie Rodriguez  
Administrative Program Coordinator  
Allied Health

Scott Sward  
Electrician Instructor

Revathi Truong  
Associate Dean of Inclusion

Joshua Van Zweden  
Counseling Services Coordinator

Kevin Woockman  
Director of Building Trades and Apprenticeship
As news of the pandemic made its way into Siouxland, WITCC adeptly pivoted to a 100% virtual learning modality in a short period of time.

WITCC relied on its technology-rich academic environment for a smooth transition. Instant access to personal devices was key for successfully moving to virtual learning. Our students were prepared and equipped with Apple MacBooks due to the College’s 1:1 technology initiative. Additionally, the College extended this program and provided laptops to adult learners earning a high school equivalency diploma.

Although the campus was well-equipped with ample technology, access was now needed beyond our doors. Students with limited or no internet in their homes were provided MiFis. In addition, the IT department added beacons to extend the College’s wireless network to campus parking lots, so students could do their schoolwork from there if needed.
WITCC relied on its technology-rich academic environment for a smooth transition to virtual learning.
Knowing that students cannot learn unless they feel safe, WITCC implemented many safety protocols.
Knowing that students cannot learn unless they feel safe, WITCC implemented many safety protocols. Masks were required while in campus buildings. Furniture was removed from classrooms and gathering areas to maintain the recommended six feet of distance. High-traffic areas with one-on-one interaction were protected by plexiglass. The residence halls held socially distanced move-ins, increased sanitization, and developed safe isolation and quarantine protocols for instances of exposure or positive COVID-19 cases.

Virtual Visits
Employees needed new ways to connect with students since face-to-face interactions were limited or nonexistent. Likewise, prospective students had the challenge of starting their college careers without being able to visit in person. WITCC provided a creative solution using virtual visits. Students and their families toured campus using 360-degree videos. They learned more about their program of interest through one-on-one Zoom conversations with faculty. Students also had the opportunity to get a feel for the college experience by joining a WITCC virtual classroom.

Virtual Enrollment
The College devised a process to enroll students virtually. First, students registered for classes with their advisors over Zoom. Then, they were guided through the onboarding process with an electronic new student guide and virtual orientation. Many classes adopted e-books through Cengage Unlimited, making textbooks more accessible and affordable.

Virtual Activities
The pandemic impacted the campus environment by eliminating the ability to gather in groups. WITCC maintained a lively campus atmosphere by creating a lineup of fun, socially distanced activities. Some of these events included virtual art projects, comedians, magicians, make-your-own masks, and speakers.
congrats!
so proud of you!
you’re a rock star
Way to go!
You are all awesome
WOOH HOOOO!!!
You’ve worked really hard to get here!!
We did it!!!

Axel Nanthavong Campos
Police Science Technology, Associate of Applied Science Degree
VIRTUAL GRADUATION

When mass gatherings were not possible due to COVID-19, WITCC searched for an alternative to the traditional spring graduation ceremony. Several departments worked together and created a national award-winning virtual graduation. The ceremony included a pre-recorded speech from WITCC President Terry Murrell, music from the WITCC choir, and a slideshow featuring a picture of each graduate, their program of study, and degree earned. At the end of the ceremony, the College broadcast a compilation video of well-wishes and congratulations submitted by family and friends.

Virtual graduation was livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube and was viewed by over 10,000 people. Social media activity leading up to the event engaged approximately 20,000 people. The week before graduation, employees delivered over 600 graduation yard signs to students located in more than 30 cities. Virtual graduation allowed WITCC to safely celebrate the accomplishments of graduates and connect with the college community during a difficult time.
SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

Student Support Services
To support students during the pandemic, WITCC continued to offer a variety of individualized services via Zoom: career counseling, mental health counseling, disability services, and tutoring. Students easily accessed these services using a new, user-friendly online scheduling system. WITCC’s food pantry remained open for food-insecure students.

Financial Support
Students who experienced financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic received HEERF Emergency Financial Aid Grants through the Federal CARES Act. To date, the College has awarded over a million dollars to 2,135 students who suffered unanticipated expenses or losses: housing, rent, food, utilities, child care, medical expenses, and transportation.

Community Support
Supporting the broader Siouxland community was as important as supporting the students within our walls. The College assisted community agencies by donating over $18,000 in personal protection equipment to MercyOne Siouxland Medical Center, UnityPoint Health - St. Luke’s, Regency Square, Indian Hills Medical Clinic, and Hospice of Siouxland. Items included masks, gowns, gloves, and sanitizing wipes. The College’s manufacturing department partnered with Thompson and made face shields using WITCC’s 3D printers. The face shields were later donated to local medical clinics. Additionally, the Cherokee campus lent all of their nursing program’s hospital beds to Cherokee Regional Medical Center. Denison campus donated tables to local fire departments.
WITCC’s popular Lifelong Learning program found innovative ways to deliver community-based, non-credit classes and connect during a difficult time. Lifelong Learning Coordinator, Mara Hall, transitioned the program to virtual learning. Instructors adapted to Zoom, and Lifelong Learners enjoyed a unique and exciting slate of learning opportunities. New offerings included maker-based classes such as earring making and calligraphy. Though physically apart, participants enjoyed new experiences and stayed connected. Many learners invited family members from near and far to join in these fun, creative classes.
LAST-DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP

WITCC offered **free tuition** for specific programs with the Future Ready Iowa Last-Dollar Scholarship. The scholarship provides Iowans the opportunity to train for exciting, high-demand careers in agriculture, culinary arts, health, health administration, information technology, law enforcement, and trades without paying for tuition. To promote this new opportunity, WITCC launched an award-winning awareness campaign. In its second year, the College awarded **613 scholarships** totaling $767,750. Additionally, Last-Dollar Scholarship programs saw a 43% enrollment increase.
FUTURES STARTED
2019–2020
5,362 Students Enrolled

5,362 Degrees Earned

1,401 Graduates
#1 in Diplomas Awarded & Recertifications*

#2 in Certificates Awarded*

#3 in Associate of Applied Science Degrees Awarded*

90% in Job Placement among 2017 graduates evaluated in 2018

* Ranked among Iowa community colleges 2019–2020
FISCAL SECURITY

Western Iowa Tech Community College continues to be a good steward of the finances entrusted to carry out its mission. WITCC received an unmodified opinion during its most recent audit, the highest rating possible with no internal control issues. (Audit conducted by Henjes, Conner & Williams, P.C., Certified Public Accountants.)

General Fund Revenue

- Tuition & Fees: $17,330,974
- State Funding: 11,626,290
- Other Revenue: 4,190,886
- Property Tax: 1,855,519

Total Revenue: $35,003,669

General Fund Expenditures

- Salaries & Benefits: 23,084,971
- Services: 5,328,358
- Materials & Supplies: 2,546,326
- Other Expenses: 3,860,377

Total Expenditures: $34,820,032

Change in Fund Balance: $183,637

College Assets

- Current Assets: $57,527,756
- Capital Assets: 52,513,463
- Other Assets: 6,299,674
- Deferred Outflows: 1,481,864

Total Assets: $117,822,757
It is the policy of Western Iowa Tech Community College not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, actual or potential parent, family or marital status, or other characteristic protected by law in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by state and federal civil rights regulation.

If you have questions or complaints, please reference Board Policies at www.witcc.edu/board or call (712) 274-6400 ext. 1406 and/or email Jackie.plendl@witcc.edu (employees) or call (712) 274-6400 ext. 1488 and/or email Juline.albert@witcc.edu (students) or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, phone number (312) 730-1560, fax (312) 730-1576.