Seward County Community College/Area Technical School enters its 41st year of offering higher education opportunities to the residents of southwest Kansas in 2009-10. We celebrated our 40th anniversary this year and, while recognizing the past 40 years we also recognized the importance of moving forward toward the future. We adopted a strategic plan “2010-2017 – Success one step at a time”, and identified six vision categories in which we realize those are the imperatives aspects of our role in meeting the individual needs of our students. During the development of our strategic plan we utilized input from all aspects of our constituents. We received input from our community through a number of surveys, civic group discussions, and community members served as focus group facilitators. Our students provided input through surveys, focus group discussions, and meetings with our Board of Trustees. Our employees were provided the chance to be involved through the accreditation process surveys, committee discussions, staff meetings, and serving as focus group facilitators. The Board of Trustees, members of the administrative team, and representatives of our Professional Employees Association reviewed the vision categories to establish the institutional goals for fiscal year 2011. The entire process prepares our college the future – tying the strategic plan to documented accomplishments and then further to the annual institutional goals. I’ve often indicated that one of the key aspects of our college’s mission is to improve the life of the individual student, and I firmly believe that our strategic plan and vision address that key mission component.

In this annual report of our college for 2009-10 you will find individual student and employee success stories. You’ll find those unique aspects of SCCC/ATS that provide evidence that we truly care about the individual student. You’ll find that our faculty and staff achieve excellence in meeting our mission; whether it’s achieving national accreditation of our programs or receiving national recognition for individual accomplishments. You’ll find specific examples of the national recognition of individual student accomplishments, of our award winning publications, of our national award winning academic program initiatives, of our nationally recognized athletic programs, and of our significant local contributions. We established several new initiatives this year including a “poetry night”, the application for additional federal grant dollars to establish new academic programs, we re-established a phonathon to raise scholarship funds, and secured Kansas Department of Commerce grant funds to establish the natural gas compressor technician program and purchase advanced manufacturing equipment to assist regional industry for improved production processes.

The six vision categories identified throughout the annual report include employee development, creating awareness, technology, workforce development, student learning, and diversity. As you read through the annual report you’ll find that SCCC/ATS is striving to continuously improve our role in our community and region. As part of our accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA/HLC) we are also committed to revising our processes and actions to ensure that the next 40 years and beyond continue the same level of excellence, student achievement, employee accomplishment, and resource efficiencies that have become a standard of expectation during the last 40 years. Our accreditation processes through NCA/HLC encourages internal and external reviews of our college operations in specific categories as determined by the NCA.

The annual report addresses the success of our college through individual achievement, departmental and team accomplishments, and institutional advancements. Truly SCCC/ATS is moving forward – one step at a time.

2009-10 ANNUAL REPORT

The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) awarded the Respiratory Therapy program continuing accreditation status. Much of the program is taught over interactive video with students at Dodge City and Garden City community colleges.

The first year of a consortium agreement between the SCCC/ATS Surgical Technology program and the Manhattan Area Technical College in Manhattan, Kansas, was completed. Students in the Manhattan area completed lab and clinical courses in that geographical region, and completed their didactic education through the SCCC/ATS online surgical technology courses.

The Medical Laboratory Technical program officials and administration developed a memorandum of understanding with Manhattan Area Technical College, Manhattan, Kansas, to deliver the MLT curriculum to additional regions of Kansas. Philip Fraser, Celesta Robinson, and Rebecca Madsen were the first class of students graduating from the partnering institution. The lab courses were taught in the Manhattan area while the other courses were taught online.

Junior Engineering, Elementary Engineering, Vehicles Engineering, Battle Bots, and Online Video Game Making were offered through Kids College to introduce young students to introduce advanced technology and design.

EduKan, a consortium of the six western community colleges in Kansas including SCCC/ATS, reported the largest enrollment in the institution’s 11-year history. Enrollment was up by 9.14 percent over the previously highest enrollment and 10.3 percent over the previous year. EduKan offers online general education courses and programs.

The college signed a cooperative agreement with National American University to give students the opportunity to transfer credits earned in SCCC/ATS’s associate degree programs into bachelor’s degree programs offered through National American University’s Distance Learning curriculum.
I came to SCCC/ATS because it was closer to home and really affordable. The scholarship opportunities through the SSS program really assisted me with my education. Other benefits of this program included tutoring, laptops that could be check out, peer mentors, academic advisers and the opportunity to take university tours. Personally took advantage of their tutoring services, especially in English since that was one of my weak areas. I also took advantage of their university tours, which was one of the main reasons why I decided to further my education. It is an awesome program. They will help you answer many of your academic questions and if they do not know the answer they will find someone who does. This program is one of the best programs to be a part of when it comes to furthering your education and being able to network. I highly recommend students to get an education beyond high school, Cardoza said. "Everyone is capable of furthering his or her education. You just have to set your mind to it. For students debating whether or not they want to keep up their education after high school, I would say just do it. It will be a great experience, plus it will MAKE you grow up. You become an adult, but not just any adult, you become an educated, mature one."

Nancy Cardoza, SCCC/ATS 2007 graduate
University of Kansas 2009 graduate, student at Florida Coastal School of Law

**DIVERSITY**

Stone® Classroom, a powerful learning tool that blends seamlessly into a teacher’s overall language-learning curriculum.

- Since 31 percent of the student population at SCCC/ATS is Hispanic, the college applied for a United States Department of Education Title IV Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program Grant. The program would fund Process Technology, Corrosion Technology and Radiologic Technology programs.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

Student Support Services, which is part of the federal TRiO program, has completed its fifth year as a grant program that supports students who are low-income, first-generation or disabled. Each year this program serves 160 students. Of those 160, 40 percent must graduate or transfer to a four-year college within three years. SCCC/ATS met that objective in year four of the grant with 44.6 percent of new participants graduating or transferring. Ninety percent must be in good academic standing and 93 percent were at SCCC/ATS. The retention rate must be 35 percent and SCCC/ATS’s was 62.11 percent.

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**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

The Kansas Department of Commerce awarded the college a three-year Workforce Solutions Fund Grant in the amount of $113,275 in the area of Advanced Manufacturing. The grant added an advanced training component to the manufacturing cluster with direct application to Welding Technology, Machine Tool Technology and Drafting and Design Technology programs at the college. The grant is a collaborative effort with regional industry employers as well as Garden City Community College and Dodge City Community College.

Industry partners include Engineering Technologies, Liberal New Iron and Metal and Great Plains Gas Compression. Addition of this program will give the college the ability to train high skills Computer Numeric Control (CNC) workers for the southwest Kansas region. A variety of companies in the industry have donated equipment that will be used by students in the program.

The grant helped fund a "water-jet" machine, which can cut using water as the cutter. The water-jet is CNC controlled and is the first CNC type machine that primarily fits inside a welding program/shop. All CNC controlled machines operate with coordinates, which are generated from computer drawings through the Drafting program.

"The realignment of existing curriculum, expanded shop facilities and additional equipment allows for the expansion of training opportunities for emerging workers, underemployed workers, retraining for dislocated workers and development of incumbent workers," said Dr. Bud Smithson, director of the Area Technical School in Liberal. This area is a high growth, high wage area.

- The National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) certified both the Automotive Mechanics and Diesel Technology programs.
- The college began a Medical Coding and Reimbursement Specialist program and a Medical Transcription program.

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*NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION—Applicants for admission and employment, students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Seward County Community College/Area Technical School are hereby notified that this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning Seward County Community College/Area Technical School’s compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact Mr. Tommy E. Williams, P.O. Box 1137, 1801 North Kansas, Liberal, Kansas, (850) (622) 1801.*
EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT

* In recognition for her service at the regional level, Dr. Suzanne Campbell, Medical Laboratory Technician instructor/coordinator, received the Omicron Sigma award from the American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science. She also completed her term as president of the Kansas Society for Clinical Laboratory Science and served as the Region VI representative on the ASCLS Leadership Development Committee.
* Dale Reed, associate dean of educational services, began his first year of a two-year term as Region VI board member of the National Association for Career & Technical Education Information.
* Celebrating 25 years at SCCC/ATS were Tammy Doll, director of development, and Margaret Thompson, library technician, while Andy Yoxall, director of public information, has been at the college 30 years.
* Steve Hecox, Allied Health Division chair, and Gary Staiger, Construction Trades Technology, retired from the college after 29 and 10 years, respectively. Staiger began at the Southwest Kansas Technical School before it merged with the college.
* Justin Roberts, Automotive Technology I instructor, passed two of his National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation certifications (NATEF). He is now certified in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Steering & Suspension, and Brakes and Engine Repair. NATEF evaluates the providers of in-service technician training programs under a program called Continuing Automotive Service Education.
* Sybil Wagner, SkillsUSA advisor, was named Outstanding SkillsUSA advisor for Kansas. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce and helps college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations.
* Donna Fisher, financial aid director, and Janice Williams, Computer Information Systems instructor, were recognized by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.
* Tommy Williams, dean of administrative services, served as representative of the Kansas Association of Community College Business Officers. He also serves as a representative of the System Council of Business Officers of the Kansas Board of Regents.

STUDENT LEARNING

2009-10 STUDENT PROFILE

| Head count | 2,698 |
| Credit hours | 35,580 |
| Female | 59 percent |
| Male | 41 percent |

2009-10 GRADUATES

| Certificate of Completion | 34% |
| Associate in General Studies | 26% |
| Associate in Applied Science | 21% |
| Associate in Science | 18% |
| Associate in Arts | 1% |

AGE DISTRIBUTION

| 0-9 | 12% |
| 10-19 | 46% |
| 20-29 | 34% |
| 30-39 | 8% |
| 40-49 | 6% |
| 50+ | 18% |
The college, which opened its doors to 331 students in September 1969, celebrated its 40-year anniversary.

The college remodeled the student activities center and cafeteria area at the Area Technical School.

Alumni, friends and family pledged over $35,000 in a pho-nathon for the SCCC/ATS Foundation to help raise money for scholarships. Student clubs and organizations, athletes, faulty, staff made phone calls.

The college submitted its first systems portfolio to the Higher Learning Commission as part of the AGIP accreditation process.

The college received an award for Curriculum Innovation, a part of the 20th Annual Exemplary Initiatives Competition. The college won for its piece on “Nowhere to Run, Nowhere to Hide: Changing Campus Culture by Assessing Writing Across the Curriculum.” The winning entry, an article describing the SCCC/ATS Writing Assessment Process, was submitted by English Instructors Bill McGloth- ing and Dale Doll. The group was recognized at the Sixth Academy for Instructional Administrators.

The Foundation officially changed its name to the SCCC/ATS Foundation when the Southwest Kansas Technical School dissolved its foundation and transferred its assets and permanent scholarships to the college foundation.

The Foundation Auction raised over $41,000 during its scholarship auction, the second highest in its 15-year history.

The college received notification from the National Accreditation Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences that the Medical Laboratory Technician was re-accredited for another seven years, which is the maximum length of time of an accreditation award. This re-accreditation will continue until 2016.

The Respiratory Therapy and Nursing programs received a state reserve grant through federal Carl Perkins legisla-
tion award. This re-accreditation will continue until 2016.

The college met or exceeded all of its anticipated goals and exceeding sufficient goals for acceptance by the Kansas Board of Regents.

The Humanities, Social Science & Education Division hosted a Coffee House/Poetry Reading that featured SCCC/ATS students and staff reading original poetry, acoustic guitar music by students, and gourmet coffees and desserts.

More than 250 students from 12 high schools competed in Xtreme Challenge contests on campus. Elkhart High School earned the Over-
all Award by having more students with points in the top three places of the contests than any other school in attendance. First-place winners were Administrative Technology: Megan Kuehler, Satanta; Agriculture: Kurtis Clawson, Satanta; Art: Emily Taylor, Turpin; Computer Information Systems: B.J. Mote, Turpin; Cosmetology: Rene Boaldin, Elkhart; Criminal Justice: Brandon Rusch, Rolla; Journalism: Jayce Apsley, Satanta; Marketing/Management: Logan Smith, Elkhart; English: Taylor Cameron, Rolla, Brandon Rusch, Rolla; Kelly Francis, Liberal; Health Information Systems: Julie Spillman, Elkhart; Trade and Industrial Education: Travis Perkins, Elkhart.

The college participated in the Kansas Board of Regents PEI Bond Loan Program to make campus improvements.

The college met or exceeded all of its anticipated goals and exceeded sufficient goals for acceptance by the Kansas Board of Regents. The goals are part of the overall performance agreement that is presented to the board of regents.