

2024-2025

# President's Report



# Message from the President...

As we reflect on the past year at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, it's clear that our collective efforts have continued to move the institution forward in remarkable ways. From academic achievements and athletic victories to campus growth and accreditation success, Co-Lin has remained focused on excellence. This publication highlights many of the milestones and accomplishments that made this year one to celebrate—and sets the stage for the exciting work still ahead.

My theme for this year was "Building on Success," with goals to complete the SACSCOC re-affirmation process and continue to elevate the college in all areas. In October of 2024, we welcomed the SACSCOC on-site review team to each of our campuses. The team completed an in-depth analysis of our leadership team, processes, policies, and the overall operations for the college. At the end of the week, the review team left with no findings. To say this is an accomplishment is an understatement. To have no findings on a review of this magnitude is quite an achievement. I want to personally thank and commend our leadership team, all employees, and students for making our re-accreditation process a huge success. The college officially received notification of another 10 years of accreditation in July of 2025.

For the third consecutive year, Co-Lin ranked number one out of all 15 Mississippi community colleges for student success. Our faculty and staff are committed to supporting, retaining, and successfully graduating our students. Their dedication is evident in the continued success of our students.

Our standard for excellence in the classroom also extended to the field and the court. The Lady Wolves Softball team again put Co-Lin in the national spotlight by claiming the NJCAA DII National Softball Championship for the second time in three years.

Looking ahead to a new academic year, I feel excited



about all that is happening at Co-Lin. We are working diligently to continue recruiting new students, add new programs, and enhance our facilities. One of my top priorities is to renovate and add new residence halls to make room for the growing number of students who desire to live on campus.

I truly appreciate the work of our Board of Trustees, our employees, our donors, and our community partners. Your support means more now to the college than ever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dewayne Middleton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.

# Copiah-Lincoln Community College



# STUDENT Highlights



Co-Lin's Culinary Arts Technology Program won second place in the Junior Chefs Division at The Salvation Army Jackson Metro Area's Soup, Soap, and Salvation event serving their Chicken Tortilla soup. Students who participated included Tristan Bufkin, Rachel Johnson, Simya Porter, Christian Smith, and Ashlyn Sprayberry.

Mary Berry, a sophomore at the Simpson County Center, was one of 210 Phi Theta Kappa members named a 2024 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar and received a \$1,000 scholarship.



The Co-Lin Medical Laboratory Technology student bowl team was first runner-up in the Mississippi/Louisiana ASCLS student bowl competition, making them one of the top two student bowl teams in Mississippi and Louisiana. Team members included Hannah Meredith of Wesson, Savannah Smith of Brookhaven, team captain Kali Herring of Brookhaven, Tyreka Wilson of Brookhaven, and Kenzie Smith of Bogue Chitto.



Sophomore Sophie Sisson of Moss Point was named a prestigious Lyceum Scholar Award recipient by the University of Mississippi. The Lyceum Scholarship will cover the cost of full-time tuition at Ole Miss for two years, totaling nearly \$20,000.

Sophomore Clifton Jernigan of Eupora was named a Mississippi State University (MSU) Presidential Partnership Scholarship recipient. The Presidential Partnership Scholarship will cover the cost of full-time tuition at MSU for two years, totaling over \$20,000. This scholarship is only for community college transfer students who are members of Phi Theta Kappa and have showcased academic excellence and leadership on campus.



Sophomore Alexandria "Allie" Wall of Brookhaven won the only two-year college scholarship awarded by the national mathematics honor society Mu Alpha Theta. Wall beat out every other community college nominee from across the nation to win the \$4,000 scholarship to use at the university of her choosing.



The Alpha Alpha Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa on the Natchez Campus attended the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional awards gala where chapter president Angelica King of Washington was recognized as a prestigious Coca-Cola Gold Scholar and the Golden Key Recipient.

## STUDENT *Highlights*



Associate Degree Nursing student Kasheya Heckard of Bogue Chitto was selected for the Mississippi School of Nursing Scholarship given by the Mississippi Nurses Foundation. Scholarship recipients were selected based on leadership skills and collegiate and community involvement.

Sophomore Medical Radiologic Technology student Johnna Norman of Brookhaven received the Mississippi Radiological Society (MRS) Scholarship Award. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding radiologic technology student selected by the radiologic technology program faculty.



The Eta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa attended the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Leadership Gala where they were named a Five Star Chapter and received Hallmark Honors in Action Distinguished Theme. Co-Lin sophomore Cara Jarancik, who serves as Vice President of Service, was the Golden Key recipient and Co-Lin freshman Jon Warren received Distinguished Chapter Member.



William Winter scholars included student Krista Brengetty from the Natchez Campus; and student Allison Hamilton from the Wesson Campus.



Sophomore student Tyreka Wilson of Brookhaven was chosen by ASCLS of Mississippi as Medical Laboratory Technology Student of the Year.

Sophomore Anna Harvey of McComb received the Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists scholarship, given to one outstanding sophomore at each institution. Harvey also won the Hashtag Contest for this year's conference. The duo of Madison McNatt of Bogue Chitto and Johnna Norman of Brookhaven won third place in the student exhibit. In the prep bowl competition, the Co-Lin team of Heidi Smith of Brookhaven, Lynsey Cooper of McComb, Lorelai Langley of Bogue Chitto, Anna Harvey of McComb, and Rebekah Box of Brookhaven claimed third place. Freshman Allyson Sullivan of Wesson won the Artwork Competition, and her artwork was displayed on the cover of the 2024 conference program.



# EMPLOYEE Highlights



♦ Social Science Division Chair and Instructor Keith Stovall received the prestigious CAST Crusader Award. Each year, Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi™ recognizes an outstanding individual who is committed to the Mississippi CAST (Child Advocacy Studies) program and workforce development representing systematic change for the protection of children. Stovall was presented with the award at the annual One Loud Voice Conference.

♦ PTK chapter advisor Cheryl Hunt received the Horizon Award and was recognized as one of the Bennie Warren Outstanding Advisors.

♦ The PTK Eta Omega advisor team of Amber Bowman, Dana Hale, Penny Hartley, and Mary Warren received the Distinguished Chapter Advisor Team award.

♦ William Winter Scholars included English Instructor Cheryl Hunt, English Instructor Nicole Donald, and Humanities Instructor Janie Blakeney.

♦ The 2025 NISOD Excellence Award honored Co-Lin Natchez Campus Science Instructor and Academic Chair Denise Thibodeaux of Natchez.

♦ English instructor Priscilla "Penny" Hartley of Hazlehurst was recognized as the college's 2025 Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher of the Year.

♦ Medical Radiologic Technology Program Director Kelly Fenwick of Bogue Chitto completed the 2024 American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Leadership Academy.

♦ President Dr. Dewayne Middleton was honored by United States Congressman Bennie G. Thompson at an awards banquet held in downtown Natchez. Honorees were selected from Adams, Amite, Franklin, and Wilkinson counties for their impactful contributions to the communities they serve. In addition, Co-Lin Board Members Dr. Adrian Hammitte, Jefferson County School District Superintendent, and Zandra McDonald, Natchez-Adams School District Superintendent were honored; and three members of the Co-Lin Natchez Campus faculty and staff were recognized: Campus Police Officer Benjamin Davis, Instructor Joyce Arceneaux-Mathis, and Instructor Cheryl Hunt.





◆ MLT program director Paula Yarborough was named the MLT Educator of the Year and received the Omicron Sigma awards from ASCLS of Mississippi.

◆ The Adult Education department earned top awards from the Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Education (MAACE). Co-Lin Lead Instructor/Mentor Makita Jackson was selected as the JoAnn Tisdale Teacher of the Year and Data Manager Danielle White was selected as Support Staff of the Year.

◆ Eddie Britt was selected as a 2024 Moody Institute Fellow. As part of the selection, he received an award check to attend the 50th Annual Conference for the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges.

◆ Science Division Chair Dr. Megan Winborne was honored as Educator of the Year by the Brookhaven-Lincoln County Chamber.

◆ Academic Counselor Amber Bowman completed the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy.

◆ Director of Communications Scarlett Hart completed the College Policy Fellowship Program.

◆ Head Softball Coach Meleah Howard was named 2025 MACCC Coach of the Year, Gulf District A Coach of the Year, and NJCAA Coach of the Tournament. The Lady Wolves Coaching Staff was named NFCA NJCAA DII National Staff of the Year.



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# COLLEGE *Highlights*

◆ Co-Lin ranked No. 1 in student success among all 15 Mississippi community colleges. This is the third consecutive year Co-Lin has captured the number one ranking in student success. Co-Lin had the highest percentage for student success of all 15 community colleges in the state, with a total student success rate of 69.7 percent, far exceeding the state average of 61 percent. This means of all community colleges in Mississippi, Co-Lin has the highest percentage of graduates. Student success is captured as earned awards, transferred, or retained at the institution within 150 percent of expected time to graduation.

◆ Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Paramedic Training Program earned national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). This prestigious recognition highlights the program's commitment to excellence in paramedic education, ensuring that students receive the highest quality training available.

◆ A new Cybersecurity program was launched at the Simpson County Center beginning in the Fall 2025 semester. This addition marks a significant step forward in preparing students for careers in one of the fastest-growing and most in-demand fields in today's job market.

◆ The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) reaffirmed Co-Lin's accreditation for another 10 years with zero findings. This is a tremendous accomplishment for an institution to achieve.

◆ The Natchez Campus established a new partnership with Mississippi Action for Progress, Inc. (MAP) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that connects Early Childhood Education students with hands-on internship opportunities in the Natchez area. This partnership with MAP's Head Start program will allow Co-Lin students to complete online coursework within the Early Childhood Education program and gain vital in-person experience, equipping them with the skills and training needed to thrive in their future careers.



◆ The Cybersecurity and Computer Networking Technology program and instructor Rhonda Posey earned the prestigious 25 Years of Service award by Cisco Networking Academy. This award acknowledges Co-Lin's exemplary dedication and commitment in supporting student success and improving the communities it serves.

# Softball National Champions

# CO-LIN LADY WOLVES



The Co-Lin Softball team entered the final day of the NJCAA Division II National Tournament in Oxford, Alabama knowing they needed just one win to take home their second national championship in the last three years as they faced off against MACCC foe Jones College. But in the end the Bobcats and Lady Wolves needed two games to decide a winner as the Bobcats beat the Wolves 7-3, to force a winner take all game where the Lady Wolves won 6-4.

Co-Lin finished the season 48-6 overall including a record-breaking 27-1 in MACCC play and captured back-to-back MACCC regular season conference championship titles for the first time in school history in addition to winning their second national championship.

The post-season awards just kept rolling in for the Lady Wolves. The Lady Wolves Coaching Staff was named NFCA NJCAA DII National Staff of the Year, and Head Coach Meleah Howard was named 2025 MACCC Coach of the Year, Gulf District A Coach of the Year, and NJCAA Coach of the Tournament.

Pitcher and utility player Taylor Efferson (Holden, LA) was named the Most Valuable Player of the national tournament, NFCA Second Team All-American, NJCAA

All-Region 23 Team, NFCA NJCAA Division II All-Region South Second Team, All-MACCC First Team as a designated player, and All-MACCC Second Team honors as a pitcher.

Pitcher Emily Richarde (Lakeland, Tenn.) was named NJCAA All-American First Team, MACCC Pitcher of the Year, NFCA First Team All-American, NJCAA All-Region 23 Team, NFCA NJCAA Division II All-Region South First Team, and All-MACCC First Team.

Outfielder Carson Hughey (Brookhaven) earned NJCAA All-American First Team, NFCA NJCAA Division II All-Region South Second Team, NJCAA All-Region 23 Team, NJCAA National Tournament All-Tournament Team, and All-MACCC Honorable Mention.

Infielder Olivia Banes (Pelahatchie) earned NJCAA All-American Third Team, All-MACCC First Team, NJCAA National Tournament All-Tournament Team, and NJCAA All-Region 23 Team. Infielder Brelie Phillips (Conehatta) earned NJCAA National Tournament All-Tournament Team and All-MACCC Honorable Mention. Outfielder Kynlee Madere (Paulina, LA) earned NJCAA National Tournament All-Tournament Team.



# ATHLETIC *Highlights*



◆ Lady Wolves Basketball standout Angel "Cookie" Wilkinson (Brookhaven) was named MACCC Player of the Year, NJCAA All-American Honorable Mention, and All-MACCC First Team. The Jackson State signee racked up 654 points this season, giving her one of the top single scoring seasons in program history and second-most points in the nation this season. Wilkinson's stellar year also included breaking the single-game scoring record with 44 points in the December 7, 2024 game against Southern-Shreveport.

◆ Men's Basketball standout Deven Bates (Jackson) claimed First Team All-MACCC honors.

◆ Men's Golf sophomore Oscar Toreld (Binnerback, Sweden) was the recipient of the Chris Clark Memorial Scholarship Award for Golf. Toreld was chosen by all 12 MACCC Coaches for exemplary character and sportsmanship.



♦ Men's Tennis saw the doubles team of freshman Ege Atlas (Istanbul, Turkey) and freshman Jake Bucek (Geelong, Australia) claim the MACCC Doubles Conference Championship. Atlas was also named All-MACCC First Team.



♦ Women's Tennis sophomore Yari Bello (Caracas, Venezuela) signed with Huntington University. Sophie Sisson (Moss Point) and Ann-Clark Van (Jayess) were named to the CSC Academic All-District Team.

♦ Co-Lin Baseball earned another post-season berth and finished their season at the Region 23 Tournament. Outfielder Tucker Jones (Brandon) was named All-MACCC First Team.

♦ Both the Men's and Women's Soccer teams earned a place in the NJCAA Gulf South District Playoffs for the third straight year. Midfielder Yohan Bedoya (Bogota, Colombia) was named All-MACCC First team.

♦ The Co-Lin football team saw 12 players earn All-MACCC honors, and two players, Defensive back DJ Hill-Smith (Reed, AR) and punter Humberto Rosales (McCalla, AL), were named to the NJCAA All-Region 23 football team.

♦ Co-Lin's athletic programs set a new school record as 117 student-athletes earned Academic All-MACCC honors.

♦ Men's Golf, Baseball, and the Lady Wolves Basketball team won the All-State Academic Team Award with the highest GPAs within the MACCC for their respective sport.

♦ Legendary Football Coach Glenn Davis retired after leading the Pack for the past 21 seasons.



# FACILITIES *Highlights*



During the 2024-2025 academic year, the college continued work to enhance and update facilities. The Mississippi Department of Transportation project was completed adding new sidewalks, pedestrian crosswalks, speed tables, fencing, road signs, and striping from Anderson Building down to the Pitts Field House. The project was funded in part by the Mississippi Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Water lines across the Wesson Campus were replaced using ARPA Funds. During the summer of 2025, the soccer field expansion was completed at Stone Stadium and multiple roofing projects began on academic and career-technical buildings. Work continues on the FEMA Saferoom Project that will also house the college's men's and women's basketball teams. The college is nearing completion of Phase I with Phase II upcoming. Finally, renovations for Ellis Hall are being finalized with plans to open Ellis Hall as a new residence hall housing 64 students in the Fall of 2026.



# FOUNDATION *Highlights*

For the second consecutive year, the Co-Lin Foundation received gifts of more than \$1 million during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This includes scholarship support, program support, general contributions, and funds from special events. The Foundation provided more than \$1 million in support to the college, including approximately \$350,000 in student and faculty scholarships, \$340,000 for athletics, and more than \$175,000 in instructional support and building projects. The current value of the assets of the Foundation recently exceeded \$11 million for the first time in its history.

♦ The Co-Lin Foundation purchased a virtual reality headset for the Medical Radiologic Technology program, allowing students to begin training with virtual reality simulations. Co-Lin is one of the first programs in the state to bring VR into the radiology classroom, leading the way in immersive, hands-on learning.

♦ Georgia Pacific employees visited the Automation and Control Technology program on the Wesson Campus and gave a generous donation to the program. Georgia Pacific supports the Automation and Control program and the college's robotics team, the Seawolves, annually.

♦ The Copiah County Medical Center Cares Foundation Scholarship was established with the Co-Lin Foundation by the CCMC Cares Foundation. The scholarship will benefit students from Copiah County pursuing careers in allied health and other health-related fields.

♦ Co-Lin and Magee High School held a joint event announcing the establishment of the Faye and Carey Posey Educational Foundation Scholarship. The fund awards full-tuition scholarships at Co-Lin for all students who graduate from Magee High School with a 3.0 or higher grade point average. Students may use the scholarship at either the Co-Lin Simpson County Center or the college's main campus in Wesson.





# Homecoming Scenes

Homecoming at Co-Lin is easily one of the best weeks of the year. Students, employees, alumni, friends and community members came together for a packed schedule of exciting events. From yoga in the quad, to movie night, live music, the annual 5K Glow Run, and homecoming pep rally, there was something fun for everyone. On Homecoming day, we honored outstanding alumni at the Alumni Awards Reception, visited with friends new and old at the Tailgate Party, and crowned our 2024 Homecoming Queen Makyia Stallings of Brookhaven during the big game. Representing the student body as homecoming maids were Carlee Case, Syllia McCalup, Reagan Fortenberry, Carmen Lambert, Jada Stampley, Kadence Phillips, and Maylin Berry. Homecoming day was only made better by perfect weather and a 42-16 win over the Southwest Mississippi Community College Bears.





# BOARD *Highlights*



## ADAMS COUNTY

Lynwood Easterling  
Chuck Gilbert  
Melton King, *Chairman*  
Jason Lynch  
Zandra McDonald  
Dante Weir

## COPIAH COUNTY

Steve Amos  
Chris Barrentine  
Ray Brown Jr.  
Mary Cleveland  
Rickey Clopton  
Dr. Troy Stewart, *Vice Chairman*

## FRANKLIN COUNTY

Chris Kent  
Barry Tyson, *Secretary*

## JEFFERSON COUNTY

Dr. Tracy Cook  
Dr. Adrian Hammitte

## LAWRENCE COUNTY

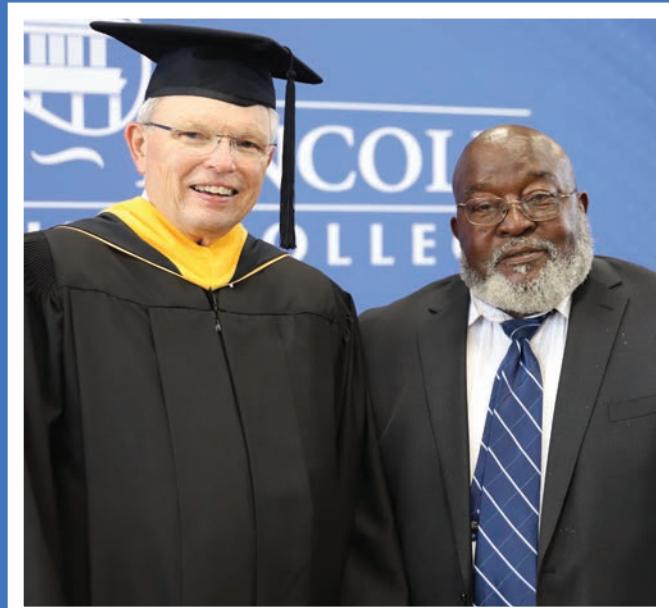
Allen Barron  
Tommy Jolly

## LINCOLN COUNTY

Jack Case  
Stacey Davis  
Dr. Janee Harrison  
Randall Lofton  
Sam Stewart  
Michael Tanner

## SIMPSON COUNTY

Steven Ammann  
Chris Dunn  
Dr. Paul Lawrence



Dr. Troy Stewart, (right) Vice Chairman of the Board, passed away on June 14, 2025. Dr. Stewart had recently celebrated 10 years of service to the college. He could often be found supporting our students and employees at many events on campus.

# FINANCIAL Highlights



## REVENUE FUNDS

|                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Tuition and Fees         | \$10,265,406.00        |
| State Appropriations     | \$13,778,458.00        |
| County Appropriations    | \$ 6,356,980.00        |
| Federal Grants/Contracts | \$10,146,314.00        |
| State Grants/Contracts   | \$ 2,454,337.00        |
| Local Grants/Contracts   | \$ 377,247.00          |
| Sales and Services       | \$ 5,590,881.00        |
| Transfers                | -                      |
| Other Revenues           | \$ 402,288.00          |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>\$49,371,911.00</b> |

## EXPENSES (by Function)

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Instructional         | \$16,510,081.00        |
| Instructional Support | \$ 690,303.00          |
| Student Services      | \$ 5,461,179.00        |
| Institutional Support | \$ 6,015,596.00        |
| Physical Plant        | \$ 6,150,418.00        |
| Auxiliaries           | \$ 4,754,116.00        |
| Debt Services         | \$ 1,278,229.00        |
| Financial Aid         | \$ 8,511,989.00        |
| Transfers             | -                      |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>\$49,371,911.00</b> |

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