

2004: A Year of Accomplishment



Message from Dr. Moeller:

New beginnings – it's what so much of the clamor and commotion surrounding New Year's Eve is all about. Most of us long to become improved versions of ourselves – healthier, more accomplished, more balanced. The start of the calendar year is the ideal opportunity to reenergize, renew, reaffirm.

At Columbus State Community College, winter term has just begun. Our campus is bustling with students, many of whom spend their entire day here, improving their future.

Since our founding, 350,000 people have walked through our doors to take classes, earn degrees and upgrade their work skills. Each represents a life forever changed, a business better prepared and a community ably served by Columbus State Community College.

With your help, Columbus State was able to do a great deal in 2004, perhaps more than any year before. For instance:

- Columbus State doubled scholarship funding from \$114K to \$250K, raising the average scholarship award from \$927 to \$1330 and offering 65 more scholarships in '04 than '03.

- We added 416 generous new donors to the Columbus State Foundation.
- Captain Chris Alexander raised nearly \$20,000 with his Walk Across Ohio for the McCormac Scholarship Fund in EMS.
- Columbus State launched our first-ever, nationwide Alumni donor program in 2005.
- Five new board members joined the Columbus State Foundation Board, broadening our base of support in the business community.
- We initiated a Planned Giving Program aimed at cultivating donors and planning their estate gifts to the college
- With over 1,000 attendees, Taste the Future 2004 was incredibly successful, allowing Columbus State to provide more scholarships than ever before.

Perhaps the most significant accomplishment for the future of Columbus State Community College was the launch of **Support What Works**.

Support What Works is the first time Columbus State officially makes a case for investing in our students. It is our campaign to raise \$11 million from business and community leaders, new donors and individuals seeking a significant return-on-investment in workforce, community and student development.

Columbus State is gearing up for a major announcement in Spring '05, regarding corporate Columbus' response to Support What Works. In the mean time, we still have a lot of work to do, and we need your help. We must look to businesses and individuals for support, so that we can continue to offer hope and new beginnings for the growing number of students who want to build a better life for themselves and the Columbus community.

A First for Columbus State: Mid-Term Scholarships

In an important step in our quest to offer scholarships year-round, Columbus State is funding supplemental student scholarships this year. The Scholarship Department recently announced that Columbus State will issue up to sixty-five "mid-year" scholarships, based on high scholastic caliber, leadership and need.

"The mid-year scholarships are important for several reasons," says Matthew Kelly, Executive Director of Development at Columbus State. "First, donations from individuals and Columbus businesses provided the funding for these scholarships. Second, students need the assistance more than ever before. And third, with sixty-five mid-year scholarships being granted, Columbus State is one step closer to our goal of offering year-round, merit- and need-based funding to help students improve their lives."

For information on Columbus State Community College scholarships and financial aid, visit: www.csc.edu.

Meet the CSCC Student: Amy Clark

I was a very dedicated high school student with good grades and test scores. In fact, I'd qualified for the PSEO Program (Post-Secondary Enrollment Option) at Columbus State. Starting my junior year, I began each school day with classes at my high school, then I would spend the afternoon at Columbus State, taking regular college courses.

Between the college courses and the campus experience, I was all set to go to college in Oklahoma.

Then some financial realities set in. When I started to plan things out and do the math, I realized that "Plan A" would cost over \$40,000 in student loans above my scholarships. I decided to continue my education at Columbus State.

Since I began at CSCC in 2002, I have worked 35 hours per week. The only way I have been able to work and take courses is through Columbus State's online classes. I have completed over ten classes online and the experience has been great. I would definitely recommend online courses. The professors are really helpful, and, if you are self-motivated, you can do really well.

In addition to Government grants, I've received the Limited Woman's Scholarship, the Frank P. Gallo scholarship and the Business Management scholarship. So far, the scholarships have been significant enough to pay for all of my tuition, as well as books and fees!

This Spring, I will complete my degree in Business Management. It was the BEST decision I could have made.

It won't come easy - and you definitely have to work hard - but anyone can go to college if they want.

