

South Arkansas
Community College



Foundation

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



From the

COLLEGE PRESIDENT

We hope that you will join us in welcoming in 2012, our 20th anniversary year at SouthArk! The past year has been a momentous one for the college. Major building and renovation projects have been completed and new programs were initiated in medical laboratory science and process technology at the request of local industry. Our enrollment remained stable in the fall, and we had a record number of credit hours pursued.



Barbara Jones.

Through the vision of city leaders, vote of local citizens and significant contribution of Murphy Oil, the beautiful El Dorado Conference and Student Center has become the hub of training, cultural and community activities for the region since opening in January of 2011. The Student Center has been beneficial to both the physical and emotional needs of our students, with its atmosphere of learning and central location. The Conference Center has hosted more than 225 events with in excess of 27,000 attendees in the past 10 months. The center truly connects “town and gown.”

The first phase of the state-of-the-art Health Science Center opened in March of 2011. All 14 health programs now are housed in one location where students and faculty can interact and share knowledge and resources to facilitate quality medical training. The SouthArk Foundation contributed \$200,000 through capital-campaign funds to this beautiful facility. Major contributors were recognized through naming of rooms

and laboratories. We look forward to adding the second phase of the building—11,000 square feet for additional classrooms and laboratories—in the near future.

In addition, the 25-year-old Whitfield Classroom Building was renovated and streetscape projects completed. The college now has a more visible presence and “collegiate” look and atmosphere through these new and revived facilities and grounds. Plans are being made for updates on the East Campus for 2012-2013. And, architects are designing the Heritage Plaza—a two-phase quadrangle green space project that will connect the four primary buildings on the west campus with a tree-lined walkway. We hope to unveil plans for the plaza in conjunction with 20th anniversary activities this spring.

We continue to execute the SouthArk strategic plan, Build 2016. Student success and college completion initiatives are at the forefront of priorities for the college. Various grants, funds and initiatives have enabled our faculty and staff to research and implement innovative changes in curriculum, technology and teaching methods to benefit our students. We continue to build and strengthen relationships with business and industry and partner with educational institutions in the region. We take great pride in helping students to meet their academic goals and to ensure that our businesses and industries have a well-prepared workforce.

The SouthArk Foundation is an integral partner in assuring the ongoing success and progress of the college. Through the interest, support, and generosity of donors and benefactors like you, the Foundation is able to provide scholarships for the students of SouthArk and support college projects, programs and technology to assure our continued growth and advancement.

This annual report highlights the many activities of the Foundation and the college. With your ongoing support, we can achieve our vision of being the leading resource for accessible education, workforce training, partnerships and economic development for our region. Please join us in celebrating 20 years of offering quality education and training in South Arkansas and support us as we continue to grow!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara R. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

From the

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT


This has been a transition year for South Arkansas Community College.

The El Dorado Conference Center is in full operation; the Health Science Center is open. The Ben Whitfield Building and grounds have been renovated.

Our community's college has become a focal point for venues in El Dorado. The Year 2011 saw multiple events take place at the Conference Center. We had the largest Outdoor Expo ever on the grounds of the college and surrounding streets.

With that said, I believe that there are a lot of opportunities to further cultivate the profound impact that the college is having on our town and the surrounding area. Structure and priorities now are in place and our goal for 2012 is to increase awareness that SouthArk is a place to invest your dollars.

You should be very proud of OUR community's college, and with the backing of each of you, the future looks very bright.



SouthArk Foundation

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The South Arkansas Community College Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt Arkansas corporation reactivated in 1996, governed by a group of community members who represent the positive leadership of the community. These directors seek to obtain gifts and grants needed beyond the scope of tax-based funding, and to manage and expend these items for the development of South Arkansas Community College.

SouthArk Foundation funds are distributed to benefit and advance the college, and for the encouragement and assistance of its students and faculty.

The purpose of the SouthArk Foundation is to aid, strengthen, and further the educational, literary and scientific work and services of South Arkansas Community College by seeking, receiving and

distributing gifts, bequests and donations, and to account for and manage assets submitted to the Foundation on behalf of South Arkansas Community College and the residents of its service area.

MISSION

The South Arkansas Community College Foundation exists to build leadership, scholarship and partnerships by increasing donor support, rewarding excellence, and elevating the stature and importance of the College locally, regionally and nationally.

VISION

Our vision is to make South Arkansas Community College the cornerstone of lifelong teaching and learning in our community.

From the

FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

Thank you to all who have supported and shown your loyalty to South Arkansas Community College this year and in past years. Your gifts, regardless of size, continue to make a positive and tremendous impact on student learning.



Cynthia Reyna.

During these tough economic times, support for students to get their education so that they may become gainfully employed is more critical than ever. With approximately 65 percent of SouthArk students receiving financial aid, a large number of them being working parents, our students face a wide range of barriers. We continue to be inspired by our students' ambitions, goals and determination. Seeing students walk across the commencement stage to receive their diplomas, knowing that they have reached a milestone in their lives, makes our work more fulfilling. Add to that the generosity of our community's gifts, and we have a formula for success in strengthening our workforce and making this a great place to live and work.

Our aspirations and needs are significant, and our roadmap to ensure that students meet with educational goals is determined. We are eager to continue the success we have enjoyed in recent years so that students may thrive in their life's work. Plans for investing in students, technology, instruction and capacity are all on the horizon. These efforts are made possible through the

continuing support of individuals, businesses, corporations and other friends. On behalf of the South Arkansas Community College Foundation Board of Directors, I extend a heartfelt thanks to you for your support of education in south Arkansas.

FOUNDATION BOARD

Terry Norman, President
Greg Withrow, Vice President
Pete Parks, Treasurer
Robin Carroll, Secretary
Steve Cameron
Walter Compton
Frank DiCristina
Dr. Kristi Elia

Wayne Gibson
Carolane Hays
Phil Herring
Jane James
Alice Mahony
Dr. Carolyn Langston, Emeritus
Tandy Menefee
John Milam

Robert L. Robinson IV
Joyce Rutledge
David Skinner
Dale Smart
Kyle Swift
Jeff Teague
Charles Thomas
Knox White

COLLEGE BOARD

Steve Cousins, Chair
Sherrel Johnson, Vice Chair
Veronica Creer, Secretary
Steve Cameron
Sam Chamberlain
Vicki de Yampert
Dr. Marc Parnell
David Ross
Charlie Thomas

NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Dr. Kristi Elia.



Dale Smart.



Kyle Swift.

ILLUMINATING ALUMNI

Dr. Nathan Beane (2002)

Dr. Nathan R. Beane of Vicksburg, Miss.—originally from El Dorado—is a successful research forester at the Ecological Resources Branch of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center Ecosystem Evaluation and Engineering Division.

Beane, a 2002 graduate of SouthArk, is a former **SouthArk Student Ambassador**. After graduating with an associate’s degree in general education, he transferred to the University of Arkansas-Monticello where in 2005 he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in forestry. After that, Beane completed graduate degrees at West Virginia University in Morgantown, W.Va., first a master’s in forestry in 2007, then a doctorate in forestry resources science in 2010.

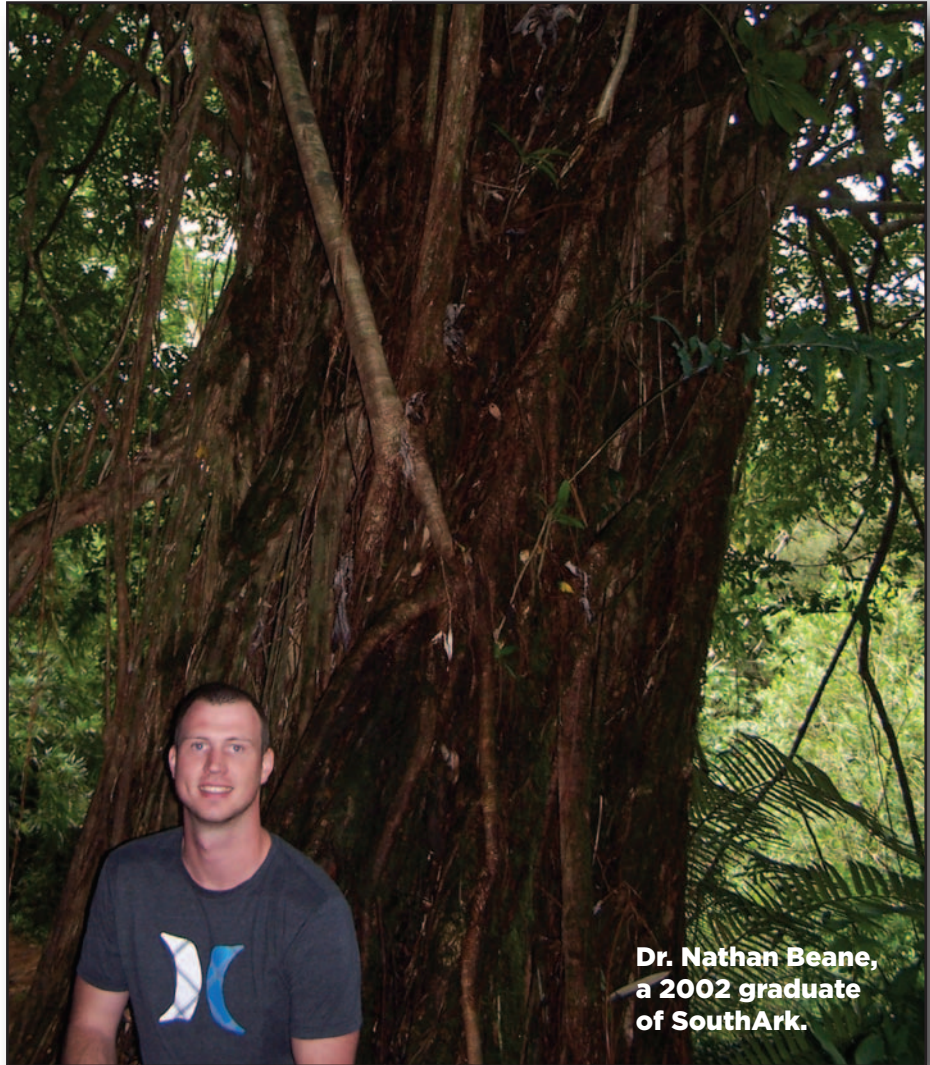
He said that South Arkansas Community College offered benefits beyond close proximity to home and affordability.

“In addition, SouthArk provided all of the necessary coursework I needed to transfer into a four-year program,” he said. “The education and experiences while achieving my academic degrees were instrumental in paving the way to where I am today. The years I spent at SouthArk further shaped my ability to focus and study, and I am grateful for the academic achievements SouthArk allowed me to obtain.”

Beane called his time spent as an Ambassador “without a doubt a life-changing experience.”

“I was given the honor to serve as a liaison between the faculty and students, which opened up for me an entirely new level of networking,” Beane said. “The experience helped polish my leadership skills and allowed me the opportunity to meet many of the wonderful faculty and students.”

The scientist’s fields of expertise include forest



**Dr. Nathan Beane,
a 2002 graduate
of SouthArk.**

stand dynamics, species distribution modeling, plant identification and geographic information systems.

“My research efforts are focused on assessing climate-induced biome shifts for military installations across North America and its direct impact on military systems, infrastructure and operations,” Beane said. “I have been fortunate in my academic and career path to not only obtain a doctoral degree in forest ecology, a field of study I wholeheartedly enjoy, but to have also had the opportunity to teach at the university level and volunteer my time teaching at various community groups.”

A member of the Society of American Foresters, Beane spends free time working with Master Naturalist and Master Gardener programs, and leads events at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational.



Displays of wild creatures like this were a part of the Outdoor Expo.

EXPONENTIAL SUCCESS

Outdoor Expo raises record funding and leads to service grant



Volunteers collect ribs during the Phil Herring Rib Cook-off.



The Dallas Cowboys Hall of Fame exhibit, featured at the Expo.



The record Expo crowd watches the memorial dedication ceremony.

This fall the SouthArk Foundation was awarded a \$25,000

Sept. 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance 10th Anniversary Challenge grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency.

The award announcement came following the unveiling of the Arkansas 9.11 Memorial as part of the Foundation's Outdoor Expo, held on Sept. 10.

The grant, funded over a three-year frame, will support the inclusion of an observance of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States as a permanent component of the Expo; the memorial as an educational destination for area citizens; and the organization of annual SouthArk service projects.

"I congratulate the SouthArk Foundation for its commitment to community service and its dedication that led to this award," said Robert Velasco II, acting chief executive of the CNCS. "It set a great example for the community, proving that the drive of a few can make a big difference for many."



Expo visitors were asked to donate food, later given to Interfaith Help Services.

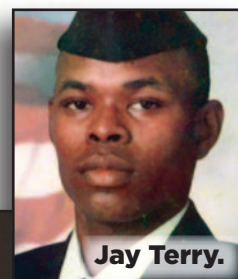
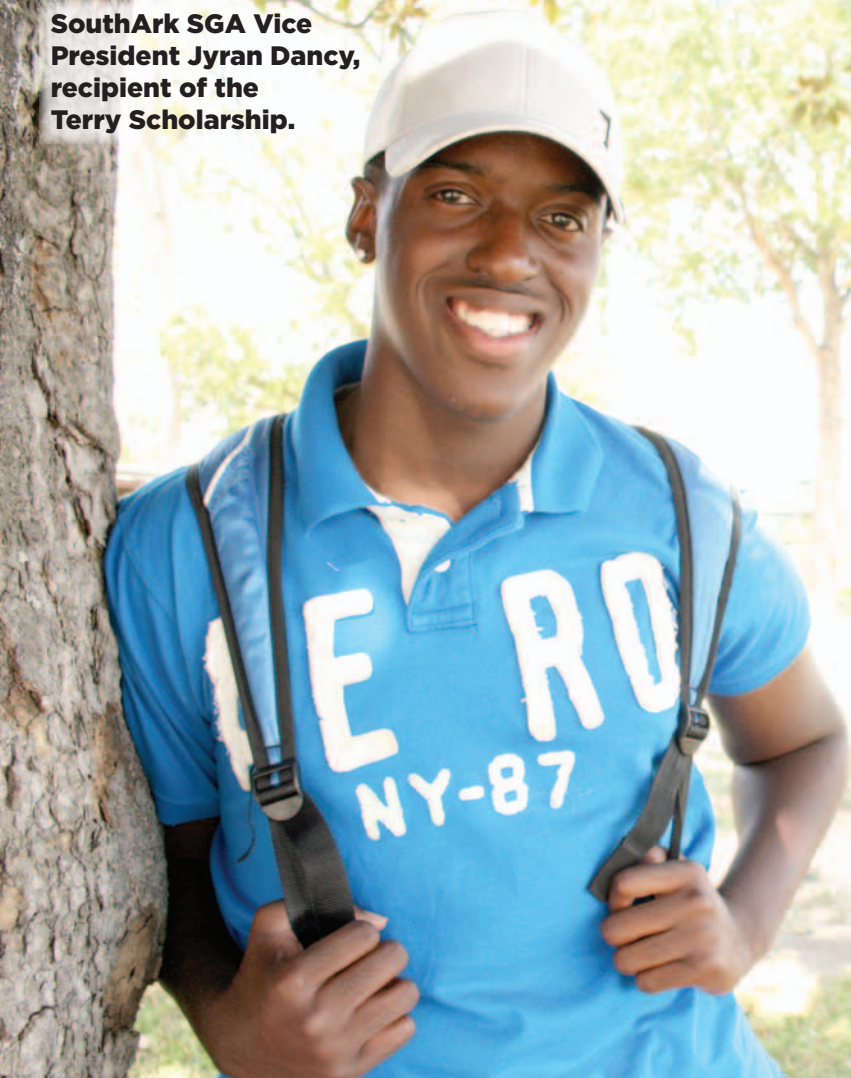
The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act established Sept. 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance and authorized CNCS with supporting service and remembrance activities to honor this day. To promote broad participation in the day of service, CNCS launched the Sep-

tember 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance 10th Anniversary Challenge. Through this initiative, organizations were challenged to bring Americans together in service projects on and around Sept. 11.

Nearly 140 organizations participated in the Challenge, competing for grants that can be used over three years to implement future Sept. 11 projects on a larger scale to benefit their communities. Engaging more than 150,000 total volunteers, grants were awarded to the 13 organizations that were determined to have the largest numbers of volunteers in each of their respective categories.

The Foundation grant proposal noted that upwards of 2,000 volunteers are expected to help carry out the grant's components over the three-year period.

SouthArk SGA Vice President Jyran Dancy, recipient of the Terry Scholarship.



SCHOLARLY SUPPORT

Jyran Dancy

Student Government Association Vice President Jyran Dancy of Junction City, the most recent recipient of the SouthArk Foundation's **William Jammillous "Jay" Terry Scholarship**, said that he draws inspiration from the award's namesake.

"From whom the scholarship is given who it is in honor of, it makes me fight harder for my education," Dancy said.

A 2010 graduate of Junction City High School, Dancy is on a business track and intends to transfer to a university to further his education. But he said that he won't be gone forever.

"After graduating I plan to come back and contribute to our community locally," Dancy said.

The late Jay Terry likely would respect that.

The Terry Scholarship is awarded annually to a SouthArk student who is pursuing education in a computer or health-science field and is a graduate of

either Junction City High or Spearsville (La.) High. It was established through the Foundation after Terry, a former SouthArk student, was killed in a tragic automobile accident in 2002 along with his pregnant wife and unborn child. At the time he was enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska. He was just 23.

"Jay knew everybody and everyone knew him," instructor Vicki Badgley said. "He was likable, charming and very engaging."

Terry's father—a longtime member of the college's custodial staff—and mother, Willie and Brenda Terry, decided that funding a scholarship in their son's name would be a fitting tribute and also would help pave the way for students in the area to receive higher education...students like Dancy, who many also would describe as likable, charming and engaging.

"It has been a tremendous help towards my education," Dancy said of the scholarship.

FOUNDATION AWARDS



Scholarships

Alpha Xi Endowed
Dr. Kenneth Bridges
Robert R. Brown Jr.
Choral
Charles E. Cowger Endowed
El Dorado Civitan Golden Door Endowed
El Dorado Jaycees Endowed
General
Health Sciences
Island Memorial
James Family Endowed
Langston Endowed
Omazel Lawson Endowed
Jodie Mahony Endowed
Mabel and Emon Mahony Endowed
Michael Mahony/BancorpSouth Endowed
MCSA/Betty White Endowed
James M. Moore Jr. Endowed
Neely Endowed
Dr. Kermit Parks Public Service Endowed
E.W. Pickering Endowed

Mabel Stratton Powell Endowed
ProMed Ambulance
REACH
Lucy Ring Academic Excellence Endowed
Lucy Ring Fine Arts Endowed
Simmons First Bank Endowed
Single Parent Fund of Union County
Jo An and Charles T. Skinner Endowed
Melba Tatom Nursing Endowed
William Jammillous (Jay) Terry
Trade and Industry
Jonathan M. Warren Memorial
Dr. Ben T. Whitfield Endowed

Additional Funds

President's Circle Fund
South Arkansas Arboretum Fund
SouthArk Library Fund
Vision Care Fund
Vanguard Mini-Grant Fund



LIFETIME GIVING

You can help make a difference in the lives of students through your generous giving. We recognize the cumulative gifts of our lifetime giving supporters through these Giving Societies. Each time that donors make gifts to the Foundation, the gifts are applied toward their giving records, qualifying them for one of these Giving Societies.

**Based on fiscal year ending
on June 30, 2011.**

PATHWAY SOCIETY \$100,000 or more

Anonymous
El Dorado Chemical Company
James Family
Carolyn and Ralph Langston
Murphy Oil Corporation
Lucy Anne Ring Trust
Simmons First Bank
Charlie and Camilla Thomas

VANGUARD SOCIETY \$50,000 - \$99,999

Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund
First Financial Bank
Murphy Foundation
Drs. Jennifer and Kermit Parks
SHARE Foundation
United Way of Union County

CORNERSTONE SOCIETY \$25,000 - \$49,999

BancorpSouth
City of El Dorado
Cooper Standard Automotive
Entergy Arkansas
Lanatter and Herb Fox
Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Great Lakes Solutions
Lion Oil Company
Medical Center of South Arkansas
Deborah and William C. Nolan, Jr.
Union County Department of Human Services

PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY \$10,000 - \$24,999

Alpha Xi Chapter, ESA
Anonymous Foundation
Anonymous Family Foundation
James and Edith Baine
John S. and Martha Beebe
Cleve Blagg Pickering Trust
Mrs. Charles E. Cowger
Deltic Timber Corporation
El Dorado Advertising and Promotion Commission
El Dorado Civitan Club
El Dorado Industrial Development Corporation
El Dorado Jaycees
Dr. Steve and Clara Jones
Dr. Kathleen Matlock
Don D. Montgomery
Jim and Judy Moore
Susan and Wade Neely
Mrs. Theodosia Nolan
Mrs. Elizabeth Pruet
Regions Bank

Dr. and Mrs. Henry B. Rogers
Jo An Skinner
Ruth M. Smith
Willie and Brenda Terry
Union Power Partners LP
Mrs. Ben T. Whitfield
Dr. and Mrs. David M. Yocum

KEYSTONE SOCIETY \$2,500 - \$9,999

AT&T
Charlotte B. Abbott
Diane and Edwin Alderson
Alltel Corporation
AmerCable
Apex Redi-Mixed Concrete Company
BCS, Inc.
John and Jennifer Baine
Jeanne and Tom Baumgardner
Dr. Lura and James Brown
Steve and Celeste Cameron
Robin and Leslie Carroll
Clean Harbors Environmental Services
Cross Roofing and Sheet Metal
Walter and Susan Cowger
Del-Tin Fiber
Mr. and Mrs. Claiborne Deming
Mr. and Mrs. John Dews
Diploma Nurses of Arkansas
Elizabeth and Dwayne Dugal
Evers, Cox and Gober P.L.L.C.
George Haefner
Raymond and Patsy Higgins
Ideal Management Co., Inc.
Gwenda Island
Dr. Ben and Sherrel Johnson
Dr. Barbara Jones
Dr. Tim Kirk
Joffre and Pat Long
Nick and Virginia Macchiarolo
George Maguire
Vernie and Jane Meador
Milam Construction Company
Paula O'Connor
Panda Energy International, Inc.
Pete and Renee Parks
Plum Creek Timber Company
Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects
Premier Outdoor Sales
Pro Med Ambulance
Jane and Jack Reynolds
Dr. George Roberts
Rotary Club of El Dorado
Smackover State Bank
Ann Southall
Southwestern Bell
Systems Contracting Corporation
Jeff and Sara Teague
Timberland Bank
Union County Community Foundation

Union County Judge
United Insurance Agency Inc.
Kenny and Dinah Van Hook
Wal-Mart
Knox and Judie White
Lucy and Greg Withrow
Dr. Jessie Wrenn
John and Beverly Yocum

PLATINUM SOCIETY \$1,000 - \$2,499

Alice-Sidney Oil Company
Carl Amason
Anthony Forest Products
Phillip Ballard
Patricia Bates
Oliver Borden
Dr. Ken Bridges
Robert R. Brown, Jr.
Peter and Cherie Buletza
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
C. A. Duncan, Inc.
Becky and Ernie Cagle
Dr. J. C. and Pat Callaway
Dr. Valeriano Cantu
Walter Compton
Steve and Janet Cousins
Cross Oil Refining & Marketing
Henry Culbreth
Delta Press
Developmental Disabilities Provider Association
Ted and Lyn Drake
Robert and Jane Dudley
El Dorado Kiwanis Club
El Dorado Water
Evers, Cox & Gober, P.L.L.C.
Kevin and Claudia Fitzgerald
Dessie Ford
Melinda Hays Gatheright
Wayne Gibson
Diane Gilleland
Brenda Ginger
Helen Griffith
Jim and Doris Hackney
Victoria Harden
Randy Haynie
Donna Hendricks
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Kelley
Mrs. Curtis A. Kinard
Helen Landes
Roger Landes
Scott Larkin
Jodie and Bettie Anne Mahony
Michael E. Mahony
Richard and Vertis Mason
Madelyne M. and Edward C. McCarty
Mrs. H.C. McKinney
Jerry and Jack McNutt
Gordene and John Ed Moore
Murphy Motors

Terry and Angie Norman
 Tamara O'Gwin
 Dr. Lynn Persyn
 Pilgrim's Pride
 George W. Price
 Pro-Med Ambulance
 Dr. Terry Puckett
 Robert Ragsdale
 Dr. Alan Rasco
 Cynthia Reyna
 Robert and Paula Reynolds
 Michael Roberts
 M. Maurice Rogers
 Joyce Rutledge
 Drs. Janet and Jack Ryan
 Drs. Michael and Pamela Schonefeld
 David Skinner
 Dr. Steve and Michelle Smart
 So Ark Human Resources Association
 South Arkansas Oil Company
 South Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.
 Junes Southall
 SWAPDD, INC.
 Linda and Stan Sweeney
 Tyson Foods, Inc.
 Dr. Steve and Judy Ward
 Linda and Mike Warren
 Lewis Whatley
 Mary Ellen Wilson

GOLD SOCIETY
\$500 - \$999

Dr. Elaine Allen
 Larry W. Andrews
 Beryl Anthony
 Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield
 Aurelle Water Association
 Mike Beebe
 Carol Benson
 Sue Bowman
 Jay Bradford
 Jeanette Brown
 Beth Burns
 Carol & Witt Stephens Charitable Foundation
 Dr. Susan K. Chappell
 Columbian Chemicals Company
 Margaret Compton
 Compton, Prewett, Thomas, & Hickey
 Mary Pat Cook
 W. L. Cook
 Veronica Creer
 Keitha Davidson
 Diamond Agency
 Frank DiCristina
 Bobby J. Edmonds
 El Dorado Forward
 Jason Ellen
 Scott Ellen
 Evers & Whatley Electric, Inc.
 First Bank of South Arkansas
 Amy E. Garner
 Bert Giller
 Jay Glass
 Dr. Ed Henley
 Hepco, Inc.
 Barbara Hogg
 Dean G. Inman
 Susan Jordan
 Sarah P. Kinard
 Francis Kuykendall
 Corbet Lamkin
 Luther Lewis

Charles Lovett
 John Lowery, Jr.
 Magnolia Specialized Services, Inc.
 James W. Matheney
 Denny McConathy
 Carroll McGarity
 McLarty Companies
 Tandy Menefee
 Cynthia Meyer
 Debra Mock
 Pamela A. Mulligan
 Dr. Robert M. Murfee
 Charles Pepper
 Dr. Allan Pirnigque
 John G. Ragsdale
 Anita F. Reisdorff
 Preston Rogers
 David Ross
 Leslie J. Sauer
 Sewell Oil Company
 Dennis Shackelford
 Teresa C. Smith
 Southern Bancorp
 Sports Alley
 Storey's Floor and Carpet, Inc
 Veronda Tatum
 Randall M. Thompson
 Judy Tomlinson
 Trio Production Company, LLC
 Kimberly Vaughn
 Lawrence Waschka
 Bob Watson
 Steve Wells
 John White
 Sherri Whitehead
 William P. Cook and Associates
 Mary Jo Williams
 David Wilson
 Lauri Wilson
 Don Zimmerman

SILVER SOCIETY
\$250 - \$499

David Alphin
 Dr. Carlos Anaya
 Scott Andrews
 Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation
 Berry and Associates
 Jeffery T. Brown
 Janice Bush
 James A. Buttry
 Claude Calahan
 Venie Craig
 Edward Crowe
 Jay Dickey
 Kerlin Drake
 Deborah Edney
 Dr. Kristi M. Elia
 Erwin & Company, P.A.
 Dr. Daniel G. Ford
 Jo Ellen Frost
 James W. Garison
 Garner and Dunham, CPA
 Janis K. Givens
 David Griffith
 Lathan C. Hairston
 Louis T. Hall, III
 Susan Hanson
 Jo Harrison
 Carolyn Hart
 Carolane J. Hays
 Chris Hegi

Brenda Holmes
 Mark Hudson
 Alvin Kelly
 Dr. Gardner H. Landers
 Langley Properties, LLC
 James B. Larsen
 Cal Ledbetter
 Valerie Lewis
 Barbie Luther
 Dewayne Mahurin
 Tom Mangum
 Tim Massanelli
 Ellen J. McGowan
 Tammi McKinnon
 Dottie Medlin
 Rudy Moore
 Brenda Murphree
 David Murphy
 Lonnie Nelson
 Bobby Newman
 Roslyn Nipper
 Betty Linda Nolan
 William C. Nolan
 Betty Owen
 Grace Palculict
 Charles R. Palmer
 Marc Parnell
 Terry Patterson
 Benny C. Petrus
 Diane Pieroni
 David Pryor
 Thomas Quinn
 Rainbow of Challenges, Inc.
 Mary K. Reaves
 Dan Redmond
 Gray Richardson
 Lynda Richardson
 Sheila Risher
 Bob Risor
 Robert L. Robinson
 Johnnie Roebuck
 Laura A. Rogers
 Heather Rowe
 Dr. Steve Scott
 Phoebe Sellers
 Dr. Jim Sheppard
 John B. Simpson
 Elizabeth Spencer
 Betty Stinson
 Bill H. Stovall, III
 Systems Spray-Cooled Equipment Company
 Melba Tatam
 Denver Thornton
 Chris R. Thyer
 Todd's Arkansas Service Company
 J.D. Trimble, Jr.
 Dr. Susanne Wache
 Jim Warnock
 Bobby Warren
 Paul Waschka
 Shirley Wells
 Mary Lou Whitfield
 Nancy Whitmore
 Doyle Williams
 J. T. Williamson
 Benny Wilson
 Christy Wilson
 Al Witte
 Rose M. Young
 Young's Funeral Directors



Biology student Shaye Boykin displays a macroinvertebrate that he collected in Connior's class at the Arboretum.

FOSTERING FRESH IDEAS



Connior teaches a biology lab at the Arboretum.

Matthew Connior

Students in Matthew Connior's natural science classes at SouthArk this year received a unique opportunity to learn by way of the innovative use of college facilities, and the SouthArk Foundation.

The Foundation awarded Connior with a **Vanguard Mini-Grant** for an ecological study carried out at the South Arkansas Arboretum by his classes.

The Vanguard fund was set up through the Foundation in order to help foster and support innovative approaches to classroom teaching by SouthArk instructors.

Connior's project was used "to determine how the surrounding forests buffer the sensitive ecology of the ponds to sustain wildlife" despite being located in an urban area, according to his proposal.

Students identified and took inventory of all species of plants, vertebrates and macroinvertebrates in and around the ponds at the Arboretum.



The PACE grant awarded to SouthArk is designed to produce more college completers.

GRADUATION ACCELERATION

PACE Initiative

Officials announced in October that the state's two-year colleges, including SouthArk, have been awarded a \$14.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to restructure certain higher-education programs that meet specific industry needs, strengthen technology-enabled learning and student support services and allow students and workers more flexibility in scheduling classes.

"The project's goal is to accelerate certificate and degree completions by 15 percent by restructuring over 100 programs over the next three years," said Dr. Ed Franklin, executive director of the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges.

The **Path to Accelerated Completion and Employment Initiative** will be a collaborative effort among all of the state's 22 two-year colleges to reduce remediation and increase degree production, with Bentonville's Northwest Arkansas Community College's leading the consortium.

SouthArk will receive more than half a million dollars from the PACE grant and will use it in part to

help restructure the college's business program and to integrate network security curriculum into the computer information technology program.

"There is instructor release time involved, some software, computers and equipment," dean of business and technical education Jim Roomsburg said.

Top education and government officials have clearly-defined goals to change remedial education, increase retention and double the number of degree holders in the state by 2025.

Specific strategies for redesigning 104 associate's degree and certificate programs include improving developmental education, streamlining certificate and degree pathways, reducing time to completion and credit to completion, enhancing support technology and systems and overhauling student advisement to increase job placement.

As part of the grant process, higher-education officials reached out to business and industry to ensure that jobs would be available to workers who completed training at the state's two-year colleges.



David Gasper of Tetra Technologies, second from left, presents a check that represents a \$7,000 donation to, from left, dean of business and technical education Jim Roomsburg, dean of continuing education Lynda Richardson and president Dr. Barbara Jones.

CORPORATE CARE

Tetra Technologies

Tetra Technologies of El Dorado over the summer presented a ceremonial check representing a \$7,000 donation by the company to the South Arkansas Community College Foundation in support of SouthArk's new **process technology** program.

Launched in part because of requests from area industry leaders, the degree program is designed to train refinery operators, chemical operators and process technicians. These operators control and monitor the systems that run industrial plants.

The generous investment by Tetra is, ultimately, an investment in itself, as workers who graduate from the program will be attractive employee prospects for the local company.



Tetra's David Gasper meets with SouthArk representatives and other industry leaders at a forum about the process technology program.

COMPASSION AND COMMITMENT

JoAn and Charles Skinner

With their lives dedicated to public service, Foundation

donors **JoAn and Charles Skinner** often gave aid to the underserved and to disaster victims.

Their careers started when they worked together in their family-owned business for 13 years following Mr. Skinner's two-year military service in the U.S. Army, when the couple spent 18 months in Germany.

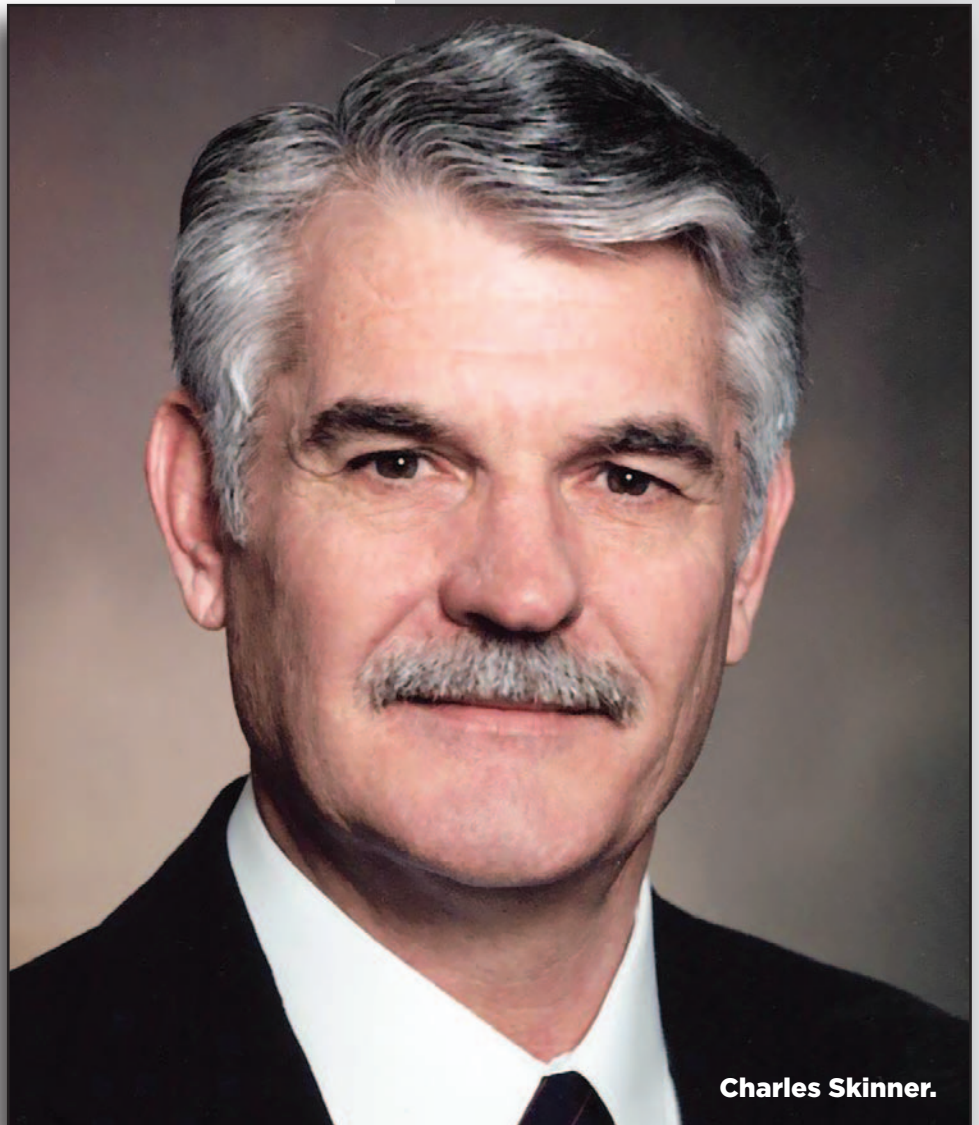
In January of 1971, he began working as the chief probation officer for Union County and later for the 13th Judicial District. He left this position to begin his first term as Union County Judge in 1991 and served three terms, retiring at the close of 1996.

Mrs. Skinner began working for Union County in January of 1973 as the administrative assistant to the county judge and retired from that position also at the end of 1996. Prior to owning the family business, she worked for the treasurer of McAlester Fuel Company in Magnolia.

After retiring from Union County, the Skinners both worked for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Skinner worked in community outreach during disasters until his death in 2007. She worked with U.S. congressional offices whose districts were affected in times of disaster and remains on the roster, although she has not been active for about two years.

Just a few of the disasters on which the couple worked were the Columbia Shuttle explosion; the Los Alamos, N.M., fires; the devastating Oklahoma City tornado of the late 1990s; Tropical Storm Alison; and Hurricane Katrina, which they worked for nine months.

The Skinners' dedication and commitment to education led them to establish the JoAn and Charles

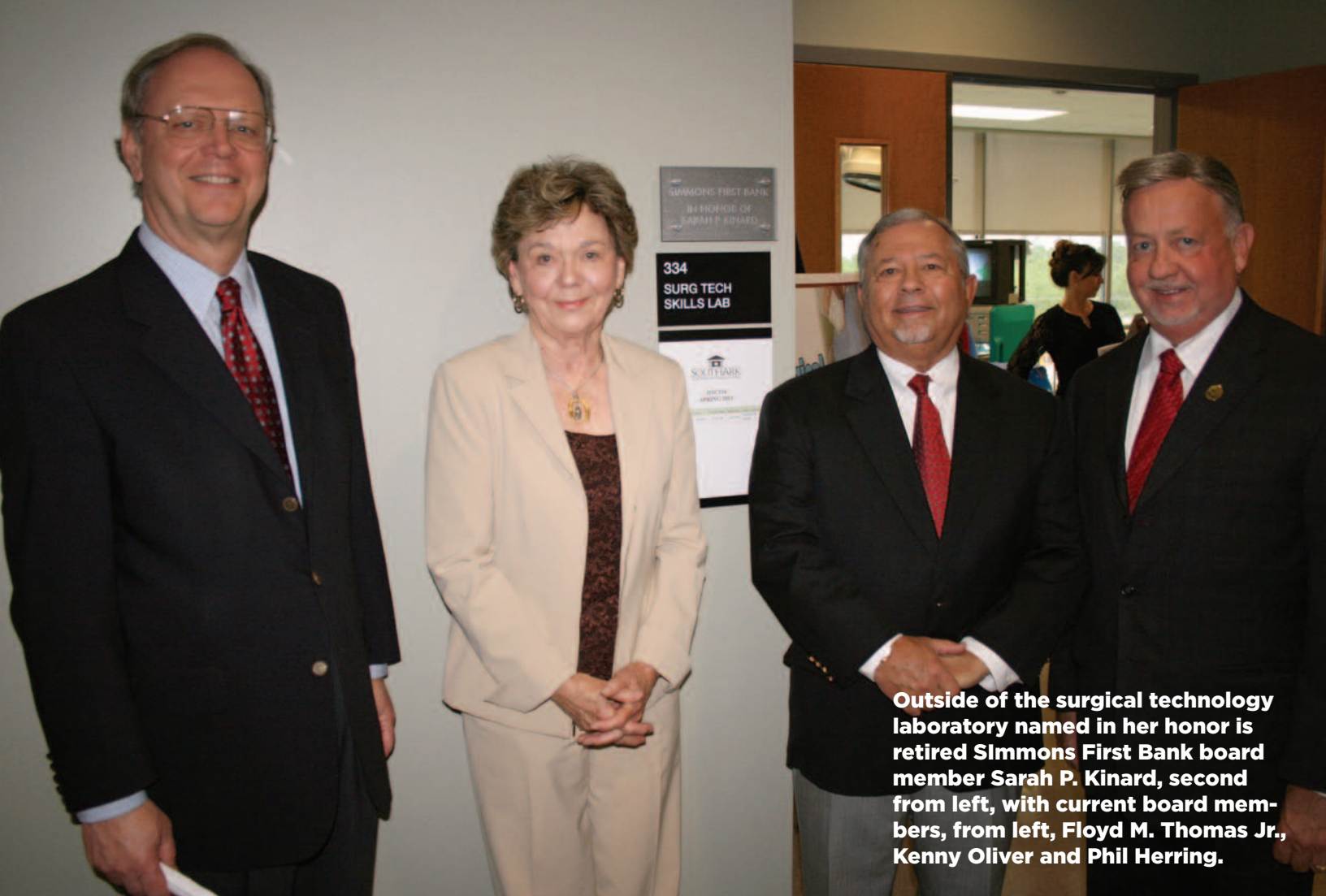


Charles Skinner.

T. Skinner Endowed Scholarship. Helping to make dreams come true for students was a motivating force when JoAn Skinner established this scholarship in her husband's honor.

Charlotte Brown, a Skinner Scholarship recipient who graduated from SouthArk with a degree in registered nursing and now practices in the Junction City School District, speaks highly of the Skinners' philanthropy.

"It is through your scholarship gift that I am able to be a positive influence, provide a caring touch, and give loving support to the children of our community," Brown said. "Your support was much appreciated."



Outside of the surgical technology laboratory named in her honor is retired Simmons First Bank board member Sarah P. Kinard, second from left, with current board members, from left, Floyd M. Thomas Jr., Kenny Oliver and Phil Herring.

A LASTING LEGACY

Named gift opportunities

The opportunity to place the name of an individual, family or corporation on a building, room, center, institute, professorship, or scholarship at SouthArk is a time-honored tradition.

Any and all combinations of gifts, pledges and irrevocable deferred gift arrangements are acceptable for naming commitments. Opportunities also exist to establish named endowment funds in support of faculty, student, or academic priorities.

The South Arkansas Community College Foundation seeks private funds to enhance the college's ability to meet the higher-education needs of the community, particularly toward a level of excellence that otherwise would not be possible given state funding levels and restraints on student tuition and fees. The SouthArk Foundation desires to provide appropriate recognition to donors for their generosity.

A possible future naming opportunity is the proposed **Heritage Plaza**, a welcoming green space with benches, plants and a fountain, which via brick walkways would connect the Library (west) to the Administration Building (east) and the Health Science Center (south) to the Computer Technology Building (north).

We consider it an honor to recognize our benefactors who have significantly invested in SouthArk's vision. Your name, or the name of someone you wish to honor, may be recognized in a special way for your support of the college. Additional naming opportunities may be developed at your request.

Education is the key to change, to progress, and to the economic viability of our community. Your commitment to supporting SouthArk allows us to prepare for the challenges of tomorrow and to better serve the needs of our community and students for generations to come.

WAYS TO HELP

You can make a difference

You can make a difference in the lives of students through a charitable gift to the SouthArk Foundation, plus be rewarded with significant tax benefits.

Through gifts of cash, real property, or estates, you are ensuring continuity of educational excellence at the college. The SouthArk Foundation exists solely to provide financial resources to the college and its priorities.

ANNUAL GIFTS

Annual gifts are the cornerstone of the Foundation fundraising effort. They provide needed funds for special programs and projects that support the college.

GIFTS TO SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

One of our greatest needs is for student scholarships. While tuition remains reasonable, the combined cost of educational and living expenses means that many students require financial aid. The Foundation's privately funded scholarship program provides that aid for hundreds of students each year.

LEADERSHIP GIFTS TO SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

SouthArk offers many opportunities to partner with and support its faculty and to invest in new or existing programs to enhance student learning. We work with you to ensure your leadership-level gift reaches the faculty or study area of your interest, and maximizes its impact on student success.

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE GIFTS

You may provide these gifts in loving memory of a friend or family member or to mark a special occasion. They are a unique way to pay tribute to those who are dear to you. Be sure to give us the names and contact information of friends and loved ones as we will send a special card recognizing your generosity.

PLANNED GIFTS

We hope you will remember SouthArk in your gift planning process. There are many ways to make a lasting commitment to the college and its students.



Planned gifts can provide tremendous benefit to the college while helping you save taxes, increase your income and pass your estate to your heirs.

REMEMBER SOUTHARK

Please consider a gift to SouthArk Foundation. Student requests for financial aid have increased substantially this year as has enrollment, which has risen 17 percent (unduplicated headcount) since 2008.

The Foundation helps those who benefit from our education, training and services. Your support drives student success and changes lives.

Credit card donations are deductible in the year the charge posts to your account.

Stock donations, if directly transferred, are deductible per direct transfer date and not by the date the broker received notification to transfer the gift.

All gifts to the SouthArk Foundation are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Your gift will make a difference. Please share the gift of education today.

ONLINE DONATIONS

Now you can make your gift online at www.southark.edu/foundation. Click on "Giving." Or you can fill out the enclosed pledge card and mail it back to us with your donation using the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 846,129
Pledges receivable, current portion	62,904
Accrued interest receivable	14
Prepaid expenses	3,322
Investments	596,361

Total Current Assets **1,508,730**

Fixed Assets, at cost

Computer software	6,365
Property and equipment	99,548
	105,913
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	80,854

Total Fixed Assets **25,059**

Other Assets

Antique furniture	2,410
Pledges receivable, non-current portion	57,097

Total Other Assets **59,507**

\$ 1,593,296

Liabilities and net assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 4,981
Scholarships payable	9,819
Refundable advances	9,175

Total Current Liabilities **23,975**

Net Assets

Unrestricted	965,293
Unrestricted - Board designated	30,000
Temporarily restricted	574,028

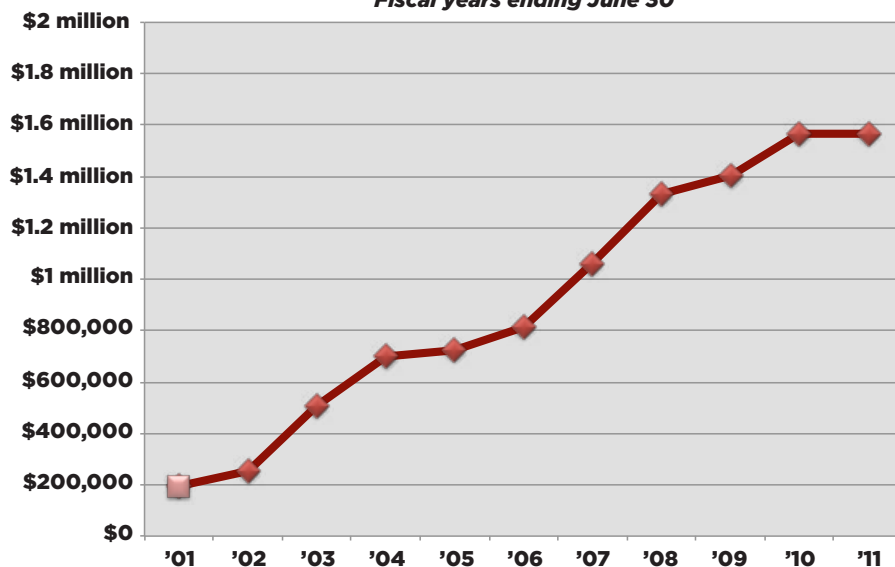
Total Net Assets **1,569,321**

\$ 1,593,296

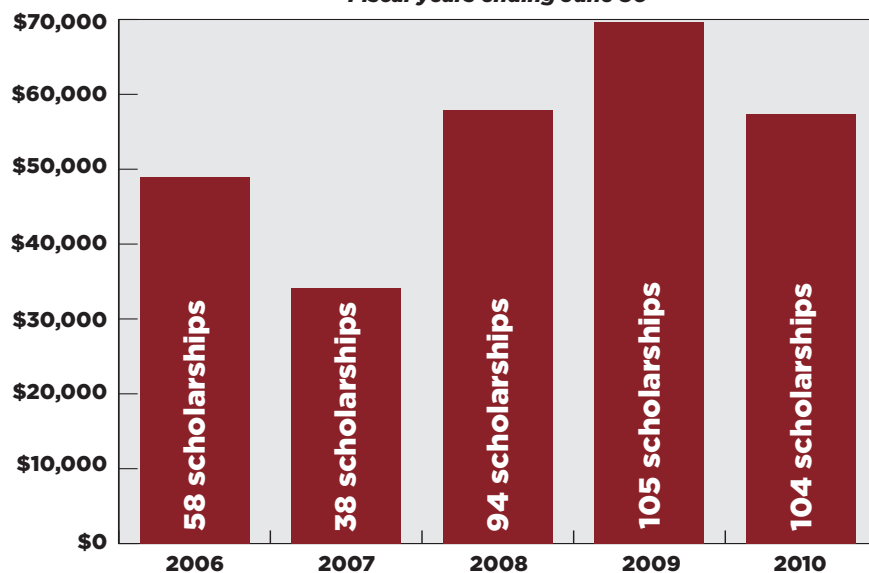
The independent audit of the SouthArk Foundation Inc. was prepared by the firm of Evers, Cox and Gober, P.L.L.C. The complete audit is available for review in the Foundation office.

ADDITIONAL DATA

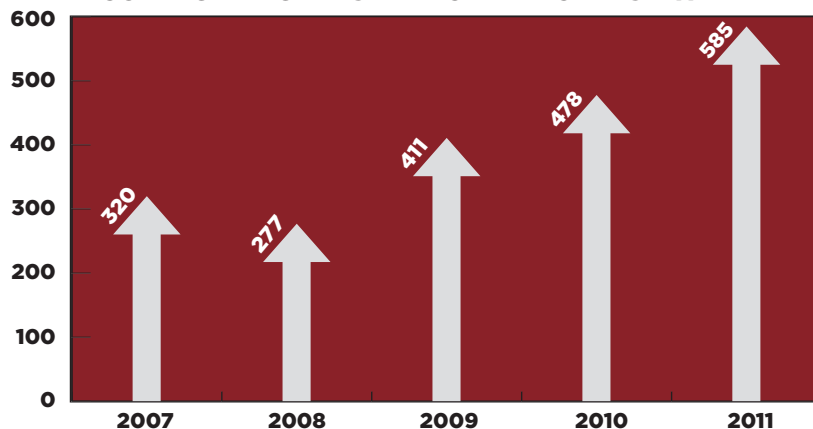
FOUNDATION ASSET GROWTH
Fiscal years ending June 30



FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION
Fiscal years ending June 30



COLLEGE DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED



Student enrollment

Fall 2011

Headcount	1,773
Full-time	859
Part-time.....	914
Female	1,277
Male	496
Average age	27
HS receiving college credit	266

Tuition per credit hour

In-district \$74 Out-of-district \$84
Out-of-state \$152

Revenue sources

Fiscal year 2011-2012

Educational and general

Tuition and fees.....	37.70%
State	59.87%
Federal	0.73%
Other	1.63%

Projected revenue: \$11,531,781

Restricted

Tuition and fees.....	0.32%
State	4.95%
Federal	91.23%
Other	3.50%

Projected revenue: \$12,842,695

Auxiliary

Projected revenue: \$1,678,863

Capital investment

As of June 30, 2011

Land.....	\$1,272,499
Improvement and infrastructure.....	\$449,045
Equipment.....	\$2,778,883
Buildings.....	\$15,411,162
Construction in progress	\$8,974,066
Library Holdings.....	\$868,948
Intangibles	\$155,440

Acreage: 55 Buildings: 24

Square footage: 279,622

ESTABLISHED 1992

SOUTHARK 20 years

...and growing!

SOUTH ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Watch www.southark.edu and “Like” www.facebook.com/southark for information about 20th-anniversary events throughout 2012.

FOUNDATION STAFF

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