

## **President's Report**

**June 2018**

On Friday evening, we celebrated the awarding of high school equivalency (HSE) certificates to more than 30 students. There were probably another 200 family and friends in attendance! The HSE graduation is always a highlight for us. We understand that these students fell through the cracks in the traditional pathway to a high school diploma, and somehow, found their way to Harper to begin their educational journey again. We are so proud of them.

The HSE ceremony also marks the end of the FY18 graduation celebrations and the beginning of the journey to the FY19 ceremonies. We enter into FY19 in good fiscal shape, both in terms of our operating budget and with high hopes for a capital budget. We were thrilled that the Hospitality Management Program and the Canning Center were included in the State's capital budget. We will now continue to advocate for the release of those funds which remains a top priority for this administration.

We were also pleased to end the fiscal year with \$12 million in our Harper Promise Scholarship fund. This past year, we met our goal of adding \$2 million to the fund and will seek to do the same next year. We are focused on having at least \$14 million in the fund as the first group of Promise Scholars arrive at Harper in the fall of 2019.

I was proud to receive the Gary Davis Ethical Leadership Award from the Illinois Community College Trustees' Association. This award recognizes individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the pursuit and support of ethical leadership and decision-making in their fields of work and volunteer service. I was honored that the Board nominated me and humbled to receive the award among many notable community college leaders in Illinois.

There will be some turnover among our academic leaders this summer. Deans Jennifer Berne and Kathryn Rogalski have accepted vice presidencies in the community college sector, Dr. Bern at Berkshire Community College in Massachusetts and Dr. Rogalski at Northwest Technical College in Wisconsin. We congratulate and salute the accomplishment of these outstanding leaders. We thank them for their extraordinary service to Harper, and wish them the best in their new positions. Searches are underway for both positions and we intend to fill them this summer.

Summer sessions are underway. Enrollment is flat for the most part and we are running \$14,000 behind our budgeted revenue for summer. Despite the fact that this is summer, there is a lot going on, as you will see below.

## ***Student Success***

- Twenty-three Women's Program participants completed a degree or certificate at Harper during the 2017- 2018 academic year. Eighty-three percent of participants enrolled during the spring 2018 semester completed their courses with a GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Harper student Myra Chung represented Harper College at the Arts of Fashion Competition in Paris. This year's theme was the topic of "Transgression." Myra was the only American that qualified for the finals. More than 100 schools world-wide and 32 countries participated.
- The NJCAA DIII Outdoor Track and Field National championship was held at Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, NY. The Hawks finished in third place with 11 All-American awards for the women and fifth place with three All-American awards for the men.
- Harper College baseball players Josh Caceras, Ryan Roberts and Michael Woods were named to the All-Conference Team. Woods was also awarded the Region Golden Glove award for his defensive play at third base.
- The Center for Student Involvement welcomed more than 300 attendees to recognize outstanding clubs of the year along with 100 student leaders and their accomplishments at the Celebration of Excellence.
- Hawks Care Food Pantry and the Student Veterans Association (SVA)/Veterans Center were both recipients of Resources for Excellence grants for FY2019. These grants will allow students additional resources to ensure student persistence and degree completion. Hawks Care Food Pantry received an award of \$8,000 to assist homeless and food insecure students with on-campus food access, school supplies, gas, grocery and lunch cards. SVA/Veterans Center received an award of \$17,000 to assist veterans with textbook needs, by establishing a lending library and bookstore gift cards.
- Student Affairs staff participated in train-the-trainer SafeZone training. This training ensures that members of Harper College help build inclusion and safe zones or safe spaces, especially supporting those from the LGBTQ+ community. Welcoming, inclusive spaces allow all students to feel empowered to reach their full potential.
- The Center for Student Involvement and the Student Activities Board hosted hundreds of students, families and members of the Harper College community for an outdoor movie night featuring the blockbuster film "Black Panther." Local actor Mark Willis, who starred in the film, held a meet and greet at the event.

## ***Facilities Management***

- The second annual RePlantIt Free-For-All took place on Tuesday, June 5. The event drew more than 80 employees who shared their plant bounty and picked up new plants for their offices or gardens. This free plant exchange brought in several hundred plants for employees to enjoy, including outdoor plants, vegetables and herbs, indoor office plants and a mix of exotic plants donated from Harper's Biology Department. One of Harper's adjunct faculty, Jennifer Richardson, a master gardener, volunteered at the event answering any questions employees had relating to plants or gardening. This event continues to engage Harper employees in greening our campus and community.

- The reconstruction of parking lot 1 is underway and scheduled to be complete by August 17, 2018. The scope of work includes addressing settlement issues, storm water management requirements, and vehicular and pedestrian traffic flow improvements.
- The 2018 summer improvement projects are underway and the scope of work include Building B entrance improvements, Building C classroom upgrades, Building P exterior stair replacement, Building P exterior envelope improvements, and Building Z faculty offices. The demolition of the Building P stair is complete and the new stair is scheduled to be completed in August 2018.
- The scope of work for the Building B tunnel project includes a shallow tunnel from Building B to Building U, steam lines to Building M, and communications cabling from Buildings M and U to Buildings A and Y. The tunnel and steam line work are complete. The fiber portion of the communications cabling work is also complete. The copper portion is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2018.
- Classrooms H166, H184 and H186 in Building H are in the process of being converted into the new BEST (Building Energy Systems Technology) Lab for the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Technology program. The project is substantially complete. Training will be completed by the end of June.
- The scope of work for the Building B Boiler Room project includes the replacement of two boiler burners, chemical treatment piping, water softener, deaerator and accompanying piping. Boiler one and the deaerator are substantially complete. Boiler two and the remaining work are scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2018.

### ***Information Technology***

- The Student Systems team implemented several enhancements to existing systems that will upgrade the student experience at Harper. The Student Checklist was modified and updated to include Area of Interest, Program of Study, and a link to the Focus2 Career Assessment tool. Custom automation was created in Banner that will send an email to students informing them that their transcripts have been reviewed. System enhancements were also completed to improve efficiency for advisors, counselors, and staff. The Starfish Early Alert system was updated to include the student indicator, making it easier for advisors and counselors to sort their caseloads. Updates to the Banner address verification software were implemented to make it compatible with Google Chrome web browser.

### ***Advancement***

- Harper College received a Gold Award for the Educational Foundation's Scholarship Stewardship program from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's (CASE) 2018 Circle of Excellence program. This international awards program honors outstanding work in advancement services, alumni relations, communications, fundraising and marketing at colleges and universities worldwide. The program received 3,204 entries for consideration in nearly 100 categories from 676 higher education institutions. Harper College was one of 100 institutions to receive a Gold Award.
- Due to severe weather conditions, the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Harper College Educational Foundation Golf Open scheduled for June 11 was postponed. The staff at Inverness Golf Club determined that the course was not playable given the heavy rains over the weekend and

made the decision to cancel the event. The event has been rescheduled for Monday, September 17. Additional details regarding this event will be shared in the coming days.

- The Foglia Family Foundation made an additional large donation to the Promise Program. This donation will be matched by the Board of Trustees. The new Promise contributions will be reflected in the June financial report.
- There were 194 individual Foundation scholarships awarded during the 2017-18 academic year to 545 students. Thirteen new scholarships to support Harper College students were created over the past year through the generosity of donors.
- A New Alumni Orientation was held on June 12 for recent graduates.
- Three Harper students were selected to receive the HOPE Scholarship. Each student will receive \$10,000 to be applied toward their second year of Harper College or a four-year institution as they transfer to complete their bachelors' degrees. Since the HOPE Giving circle began in 2015, \$60,000 in scholarships have been awarded. This scholarship is supported by 33 annual members/donors. The annual scholarship event will be held on July 17.

### ***Marketing Services***

- In collaboration with the Areas of Interest Strategic Goal Team, the Marketing Services Web Team launched redesigned academic web pages to match the College's 10 new Areas of Interest. The site includes:
  - Main landing page for all 10 areas.
  - A page for each of the 10 areas covering all relevant degree and certificate offerings.
  - Program-specific pages.

Features of the new site include:

- Better integration with the College Catalog.
- Icons for each Area of Interest that carry through to print, video and environmental Graphics (banners, wall graphics).
- Improved search within site and across search engines, like Google.
- Improved visitor experience with cross links to relevant resources like apprenticeships and student clubs and organizations.
- Opportunities to showcase student and alumni stories.
- Enhanced call to action buttons to inquire and apply.

Home / Academics / Areas of Interest

### Academic Areas of Interest

Getting started at Harper College? One of the first recommended steps is choosing an Area of Interest. By selecting your Area of Interest, we can put you on the right path to complete your goals. While some students are very clear about what they want to study, other students benefit from reviewing the options before deciding.

**We have ten Areas of Interest for you to explore.** Which one is right for you? It depends on many factors: your career or transfer goals, your values and your interests. Review the Programs of Study within each Area of Interest to learn more. Still not sure? Consider exploring further using our career assessment, [Focus 3](#).

**Still deciding?** Explored all ten Areas of Interest and still not sure which one aligns best with your goals, even after using [Focus 3](#)? No worries. During your first semester, we'll help you enroll in a First Year Seminar class (PHS 101), designed to help you further understand and clarify your path.

Home / Academics / Business, Entrepreneurship & Information Technology

### Business, Entrepreneurship & Information Technology

Launch your career in business at Harper College. Harper offers credit programs and courses in the key areas of business, including accounting, business administration, entrepreneurship, finance, hospital's information technology, insurance, management, marketing and sales.

Harper's highly trained instructors provide a rich educational experience that teaches you how to think strategically, organize effectively, communicate theories, and develop and implement successful business plans.

Take advantage of apprenticeship in banking, finance, insurance, and sales roles. You can graduate debt-free while earning a salary.

Harper is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs, a leading national accreditation association for associates, bachelors, and graduate business education.

Harper's Business Exchange program provides affordable tuition rates for out-of-district students who work in-state.

Explore our programs

Harper College offers a number of business, entrepreneurship and information technology career and transfer programs. To get started, select one of the program areas below:

ACCOUNTING	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT	WEB DEVELOPMENT

Interested in another subject? If you are interested in transferring to study a business-related subject not listed here, please reach out to an advisor to learn what courses to take to meet your academic goals.

Home / Academics / Business, Entrepreneurship & Information Technology / Accounting

### Accounting

The accounting program at Harper College offers day, evening and online courses for students preparing for a career in accounting or bookkeeping in business, industry or government. Through the Associate in Arts program, students can prepare to transfer to an accounting program at a four-year university.

Courses are taught by respected, professionally qualified faculty. All Harper CBA Preparation Certificate courses meet the Illinois Board of Examiners CPA exam requirements.

**Request info**  
**Apply**  
**Contact**

**Admissions Outreach**  
Building C, Room C103  
847.925.6700

**Hours**  
Monday–Thursday:  
8 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday:  
8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Business & Social Science Division Office**  
Building J, Room J249  
847.925.6311

**Start at Harper. Finish at a four-year university**

The **Associate in Arts (AA)** degree prepares you to transfer to a four-year college or university to complete a bachelor's degree in accounting, business administration, economics, financial services, international business, management and marketing. Speak with your advisor about the best courses to take to meet your academic goals.

- Associate in Arts–Business Administration Sample Transfer Plan**

Harper also offers institution-specific transfer information to help prepare you to transition to a business university. To learn more, visit our [Transfer Information](#) page or see your advisor.

**Earn a career-ready degree**

The **Associate in Applied Science (AAS)** degree is designed to prepare you for immediate entry into the career field. Coursework in the AAS may also prepare you to transfer to a four-year college or university.

- Associate in Applied Science–Accounting Associate**

**Earn a workforce credential**

Jumpstart your career by learning new skills through a **certificate** program. Many of Harper's certificates are applicable to a degree program through additional coursework.

- Accounting Assistant Certificate**
- Accounting Bookkeeper/Clerk Certificate**

- June Pre-Fall Enrollment Radio Campaign Highlights
  - The pre-fall radio campaign highlights awareness, along with upcoming information sessions and priority programs.
  - Stations were selected based on in-district audience targets and include: WKSC, WSHE, WTMX, WBBM, WXRT, and WLIT. We will have the five stations running our messaging at all times which include 30-second prerecorded commercials followed immediately by 15-second “call to action” or customized messages, resulting in a full 45-second Harper message.
  - The June campaign includes 400+ commercials.
  - The following programs will be highlighted: June 6 Adult Info Session, June 19 Fast Track Info Session, Business & Entrepreneurship, Human Resources, Health Information Tech Supply Chain Management, Accounting, Manufacturing, Therapeutic massage, and HVAC/R.
- Marketing Services recently completed a series of video campus overview tours of various lengths. These can be used as standalone videos or incorporated into presentations. The videos will be updated periodically to feature new and renovated buildings and facilities. You can view a 15-second version of the latest video tour here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHHHs2rQxQc>.
- Marketing Services has posted a gallery of photos from last month’s graduation celebration. Photos were taken by Harper student Daniel Piotrowski, Harper graduate and Columbia student Nick Wenzel, and DMS photography. You may view this inspirational gallery here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmikSny2>.

### Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

- The Achieving the Dream (ATD) annual report was submitted on June 1, 2018. The submission includes three parts and is designed to engage the College in an assessment of its current student success/equity work as well as plan for the future. Part 1, the coach satisfaction survey, provides ATD with feedback to improve coaching services. Part 2, the College’s current strategic plan, shares how the institution has integrated and prioritized

student success/equity work. Part 3, the reflection report, provides an opportunity for the College to share details about its student success/equity work, including progress made, challenges faced, current priorities and goals for the coming year.

- The 2018 annual submission to the National Community College Benchmarking Project (NCCBP) was completed on June 15. Participation in this voluntary project provides the institution with peer comparison data on metrics most relevant to community colleges. Five NCCBP metrics are used in the College's Institutional Effectiveness Measures, which focus on improving student outcomes and overall effectiveness.
- Faon Grandinetti, Associate Director of Outcomes Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness, was a presenter at the Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education conference in Salt Lake City on June 5-6. Faon led sessions on building effective and actionable improvement plans, and communicating assessment results.
- Kathy Coy, Director of Institutional Research, was a panel presenter at the Association for Institutional Research conference in Orlando on May 31. Kathy represented community colleges on a panel that discussed the use of the *National Survey of IR Offices* data to inform decision-making.

### **Workforce Solutions**

- In April and May, CE ran a new series of social media marketing campaigns to promote enrollment for the InZone 2018 summer camp program. Working together with Marketing Services and a digital agency, the campaigns generated significant, positive results. With two months yet to go, we have just about matched total enrollment revenue for 2017 and are about 16% ahead of last year. During the period we ran the campaigns (4/1 thru 5/31), enrollment was up 25%, with about 36% of that gain attributable to the digital marketing campaigns which cost a total of \$3,313, but generated about \$22,000 in revenue.
- As part of the Seamless Transfer Pathways project funded by the Dell Foundation, Bob Parzy and Mark Mrozinski attended a convening of the grantees from across the country. Harper's project team is comprised of Bob and Mark as well as representatives from Township High School District 211 and Northern Illinois University. The outcome of the convening was selection and refinement of a prototype for piloting at Harper College in fall 2018. The goal of the grant is to dramatically improve the bachelor's attainment rate for students who begin at community colleges.
- The Joyce Foundation is underwriting Harper's national conference on apprenticeships. The conference will be held October 8-9, 2018, in the Wojcik Conference Center. The title of the conference is the "Community and Technical Colleges: Implementing Apprenticeship Programs." It is the first conference in the country hosted by a community college and targeted for community colleges on the topic of apprenticeships.
- The Mobile Unit traveled to Topco Associates LLC in Elk Grove Village on June 5 to administer Certified Supply Chain Management (CSCMP) certification exams to Topco Employees. Topco was appreciative of Harper's ability to bring a Mobile Testing Center to their company site that allowed for time efficiencies and convenience for Topco associates. Certified Supply Chain Management (CSCMP) Certification assesses progressive knowledge and skills across integrated supply chain activities. These credentials validate an individual's ability to strategically assess business challenges and effectively implement supply chain improvements.

## ***Diversity and Inclusion***

- The Social Justice Leadership Certificate cohort attended the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in New Orleans held May 30 - June 2. The Social Justice Leadership cohort included six faculty and staff from various areas of the College including Humanities, Physics, Advising, Admissions, Continuing Education and Testing. The yearlong professional development program is a collaboration between the Office of International Education and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and designed to build diversity and leadership capacities in faculty and staff.
- Jose-Cristian Martinez will be the 2018-2019 Diverse Faculty Fellow. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois specializing in entomology.
- The Office of Diversity and Inclusion was awarded a Resource for Excellence grant of \$5,000 to continue providing the D & I Dialogues, with a special focus on increasing participation in the Part II curriculum that teaches inclusive behaviors.
- Shortly before the end of spring term, all gender restroom signage was installed on single-use bathrooms throughout the college. The restroom signage was the result of coordinated efforts between PRIDE, the Student Government Association, the Office of the Provost and Facilities.

## ***Community Relations***

- School tours have officially wrapped up for the 2017-18 academic year. This year, we hosted more than 4,300 students from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The tour program introduces students to career ideas and sparks an early interest in post-secondary education. The trip to Harper is the first time many of the students have ever experienced a college campus. Students arrive excited and eager to see the campus and ask questions about what it is like to be a college student, how they can go to college and how they can be successful in the Promise Scholarship program. More than 50 volunteers lead activities and serve as tour guides throughout the year ensuring the success of the program. This year we introduced students to new activities and programs including math, veterinary assistant and truck driving.
- On May 30, Kim Pohl attended a strategic planning luncheon hosted by the Palatine Public Library. Harper was invited to attend as a key stakeholder in the Palatine community and participate in a discussion regarding the long-term strategic vision of the library. Other organizations attending included the Village of Palatine, Community Consolidated School District 15, Palatine Park District and the Hoffman Estates Park District.

## ***Legislative Affairs***

- For the first time since the Governor took office, the four legislative caucuses reached a bipartisan agreement on the state budget prior to the May 31 adjournment deadline. Governor Rauner signed both the budget bill and the budget implementation bill on June 4.
- The State's Fiscal Year 2019 budget (starting July 1) allocates \$38.5 billion in General Revenue Funds and \$80.26 billion in All Funds, which represents funding for a full fiscal year. The budget also includes \$7.7 billion in new capital appropriations and \$13.06 billion in re-appropriated capital projects; this includes the Canning Center and Hospitality Management Program funding, though there is no guarantee the funding will be released to Harper.

- Funding for higher education is increased by \$60 million over FY 2018. Higher education institutions receive a 2% increase in funding, and MAP grants are extended to four years. The budget also allots \$25 million to a new grant program, AIM HIGH, which will provide additional tuition assistance.
  - Pension cost shifts were not included in the final budget, nor were any of Governor Rauner's previous demands for term limits or reforms to property taxes, worker's compensation or pensions. The budget does contain a 5% cut to the Local Government Distributive Fund, which is down from the 10% cut recommend by the governor.
- Pending any unforeseen circumstances, the Illinois General Assembly is expected to adjourn until the fall veto session. Attention is expected to turn to the November elections. All constitutional offices, the governor, all 118 House seats and 39 of the 59 Senate seats are up for election.
  - The American Association of Community Colleges continues working toward its goals of successfully reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, providing necessary support for community colleges and students in the FY 2019 appropriations, and passing legislation that protects DACA/DREAMers.

### **Media Relations**

- *Reuters* wrote an article about the rise of apprenticeships in the U.S. and highlighted Harper's partnership with Zurich as an example. The article was picked up by the *New York Times*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *MSN News*, *Insurance Journal* and others.
- The *Daily Herald* wrote about the Palatine Area Chamber of Commerce giving \$5,000 to the Promise Scholarship Program. With Harper's current matching initiative, the gift doubles to \$10,000.
- In the *Daily Herald's* annual "Best of the Best" Readers' Choice list, Harper was voted Best Community College.
- The *Daily Herald* wrote an article about Harper Engineering Pathways student Erin Cook and two friends designing and building a tennis ball-sorting machine that checks the pressure of balls.
- *Daily North Shore* wrote an article about Dr. Ender delivering the keynote address at the Barrington Area Development Council's recent dinner.
- *Chicago Reader* did a profile on Crystal Dyer, who opened a travel agency in Chicago after completing a former travel certification program at Harper. The business has become an important part of the Austin community.
- The *Illinois Community College Trustees Association* distributed an article about Dr. Ender receiving the Gary Davis Ethical Leadership Award.
- *Real Estate Journals* wrote a short article about Principle Construction Corporation hiring Harper alum Jon Anderson, who was in the Engineering Pathways program, as an assistant project manager.

- *Journal and Topics* wrote an article about Harper alum Reveca Torres and her nonprofit organization, Backbones, holding a 5K event in Prospect Heights to celebrate its 10-year anniversary. The event supports people with spinal cord injuries.
- The *Community College Voice Podcast* interviewed Melissa MacGregor about apprenticeships. It was recorded at the AACC annual convention.
- *WGN-TV* aired a segment on Harper alum Curtis Blaydes, a UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) Heavyweight.
- The *Cook County Chronicle* published a digest about Dr. Maria Coons being named one of Chicago's Notable Women in Education by *Crain's*.
- The *Daily Herald* published a digest about Harper reaching a four-year contract agreement with its part-time community service officers.

### ***President's Priorities Update***

#### **1. Advocates for Students and Educational Plan**

- As the first year of the case management model comes to a close, the highlights offered are:
  - Duplicated, in person advising/counseling contacts increased 17% or 1,117 contacts, up from 6,532 to 7,649
  - Unduplicated contacts increased 9% or 619 contacts, up from 6,680 to 7,299
  - The number of advising appointments offered both in fall and spring increased between 2016 and 2017 (172% and 113% respectively) as a result of additional staffing
- The Starfish Early Alert system served as the primary case management tool with more than 37,000 Starfish notes sent by advisors and counselors to students this year. More than 4,000 flags were raised by faculty concerning student issues in the classroom, and more than 800 kudos were sent by advisors and counselors to students in recognition of their academic success.
- New, degree-seeking students who placed at the developmental level in Fall 2017 were included in Early Alert classroom monitoring in FY18. Recent data provided from Institutional Research shows that these students continued to have strong persistence and success rates, as has been the case in previous years. This is particularly true for students who were flagged by a faculty member and then connected with their assigned advisor/counselor to discuss success strategies. The fall 2017 to spring 2018 the persistence rate for these students was 81.9% as compared to 56.6% for those students who were flagged and did not connect with their advisor/counselor for follow up. Similarly, flagged students who connected with an advisor/counselor successfully (grade C or higher) completed 64.5% of their fall 2017 coursework whereas those who did not follow up with an advisor/counselor only completed 40.6% of fall coursework.

## 2. First Year Seminar

- Enrollment in the First Year Seminar and Start Smart courses are increasing daily. Due to expansion efforts and alignment with the Areas of Interest, more than 2,000 seats are available to accommodate new students for the fall 2018 semester. A recommendation to require students to enroll in a first year program is working through the shared governance process.

## 3. Buildings F, M and Canning Center

- **Building F Renovations** – The renovation for Building F is now complete.
- **Building M Renovations and Addition** – The interior build-out of the Northwest Community Healthcare facility continues. The concrete slab for the elevated track is complete. The contractor is currently working on the finishes for the elevated track slab, pool tile, flooring, ceilings, doors, interior windows, lighting and HVAC controls throughout the building.
- **Canning Center** – The Canning Center and Hospitality Management Program are included in the State of Illinois FY19 budget. The Capital Development Board (CDB) requested authorization to proceed with the required Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) that would allow the College to proceed with the review of the plans and budget prior to the funds being released.

## 4. Promise Program Funding

- \$12,003,546.88 with 668 unique donors (repeat donors are not included).

We are so looking forward to the new fall term and the opening of our Recreation and Wellness Center. Coupled with the Northwest Community Health Care ambulatory center, and the Palatine Park District aquatics and recreation programs, the Center is going to become a hub on campus and in the community for health, wellness, fitness and recreational activities. We will transform the building from the “loneliest” on campus, as a student once described it, to a busy action packed facility! This is good news for not only Harper, but also for our district residents.

As you might expect, I enter into this new fiscal year with mixed emotions. This will be my 46<sup>th</sup> fall semester where some institution has employed me to be on their campus in a professional capacity. I’m sure this next year will include many new “firsts” for me as I experience the last activities as a college president. I look forward to serving Harper College “all the way through the tape” as I cross the finish line.

Thank you for the opportunity.

*Ken*