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Overview

John A. Logan College is an open admission, comprehensive community college designed to provide high-quality, affordable educational opportunities to its citizens. The College owes its existence to the Illinois Public Community College Act of July 15, 1965 which provided legislation to create a junior college system in the state of Illinois. John A. Logan College district citizens approved the creation of “Junior College district Number 520,” in September, 1967.

The College is named in honor of John Alexander Logan, a prominent southern Illinoisan whose political career led from county clerk to U. S. Congressman. During the Civil War, Logan volunteered as a citizen soldier and fought in eight major campaigns and is considered one of the premier volunteer generals of the Civil War. After the war, Logan returned to Congress and he helped found Memorial Day as a national holiday. In 1871, and again in 1874, Logan was elected to the U. S. Senate and was James G. Blaines’ vice-presidential running mate. Throughout his political career, he was a strong advocate for public education. Logan drafted legislation that established normal schools, teachers’ institutes, and instruction in the industrial and mechanical arts.

Senator Logan’s speech in support of this public education legislation attracted attention throughout the country. His emphasis on planning for the future helped to refocus and rebuild the nation. The College motto, “To education must we look . . . ,” is derived from the following excerpt:

“To education, therefore, must we look for all the elements of national strength, and the more generally it is diffused and the higher its grade, in like proportion will our national power be increased.” (Congressional Record, March 16, 1882)

For 39 years, John A. Logan College has offered comprehensive programming to serve the needs of citizens in Jackson and Williamson counties and portions of Franklin, Perry, and Randolph counties. Governance of the College resides with an elected seven-member Board of Trustees. The College is a vibrant, community-minded organization that focuses on the needs of its students and communities. Dual credit programs assist high school students in the transition to college. Transfer programs articulate with colleges and universities in the state of Illinois and surrounding states. Career programs support students who desire a one- or two-year program to enter the workforce. Business and Industry and Workforce Development programs offer training and services to workers and displaced workers. The College has one of the largest adult and continuing education programs in the state of Illinois.

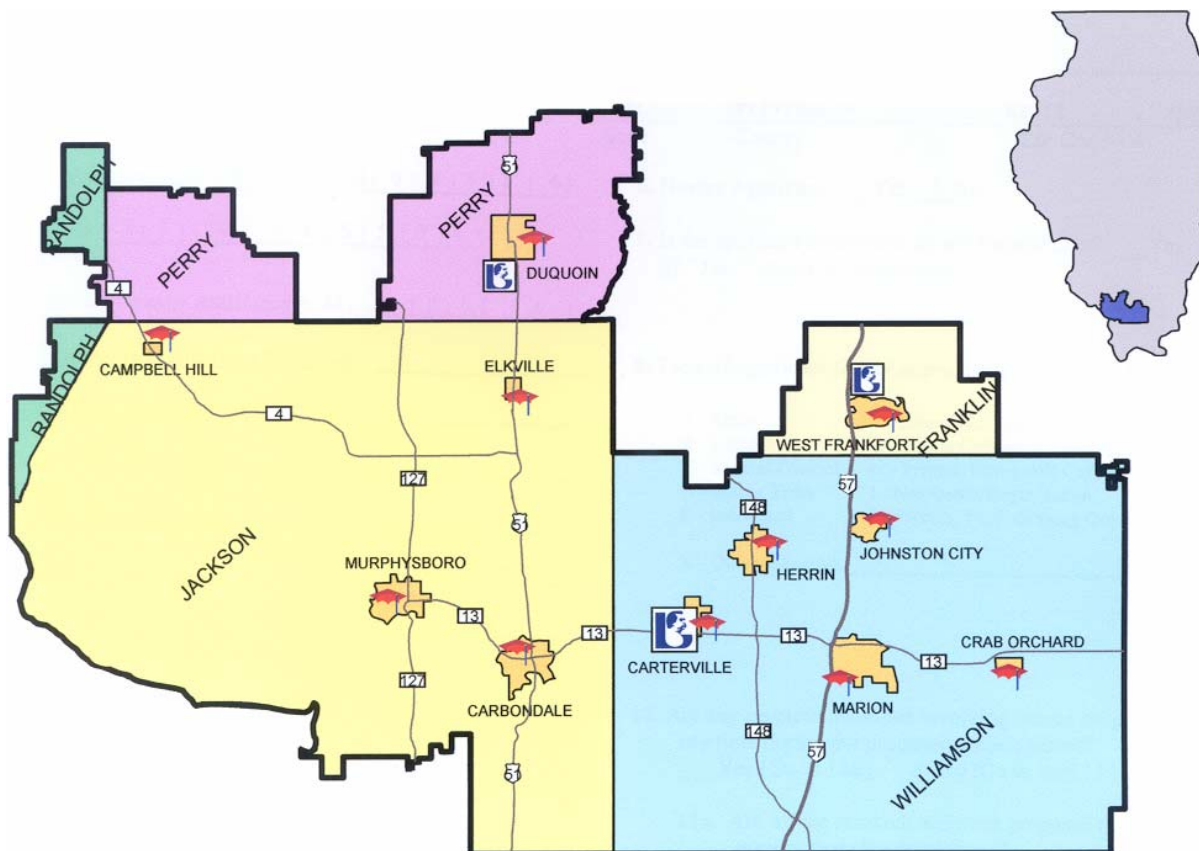
Service Area

The John A. Logan College district consists of one central campus and extension centers in the towns of Du Quoin and West Frankfort. Many courses in baccalaureate transfer, career



education, continuing education and adult literacy are taught in high schools and public facilities throughout the five-county district. This rural district of 1,192 square miles and 143,000 people takes pride in providing high-quality, affordable education to its citizens. At \$64 per credit hour, the tuition remains below the state-wide average.

The college district serves the following school districts: Marion, Johnston City, Herrin, Crab Orchard, Cartersville, Carbondale; Tri-Co, Elverado, Murphysboro, West Frankfort, Du Quoin. The area has a long history of manufacturing and coal-mining. With closures of mines and manufacturing plants, over 2000 workers have been displaced. The College is working with state and local agencies to provide transition services and training programs to help these workers obtain degrees and training to obtain employment.



Student Profile

John A. Logan College enrolled 5,783 students in baccalaureate-transfer and career education programs fall semester, 2006. Over 7,000 students were enrolled in credit and non-credit continuing education for the same semester. The Center for Business and Industry trained over 15,000 (duplicated count) people during the 2006 academic year. Full-Time Equivalency (FTE) is 3,407.



Women represent a majority of student enrollments, about 56 percent and 35 percent are over the age of 25. Over 50 percent of the student population is first generation and low-income and over 21 percent report working full-time. The College has seen steady growth throughout its history. Fall 2006 enrollment was the largest in the College's history and had the largest minority and international student enrollment to date. Students from over 400 high schools in Illinois, 40 states, and over 30 countries currently enroll at the College.

Institutional Profile

John A. Logan College offers associate degrees in 72 baccalaureate-transfer career education fields. Degrees may be earned in Associate in Arts, Associate of Arts in Teaching Secondary Mathematics, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Engineering Science and Associate in General Studies. One-year certificates may be earned in 30 career education fields. The College offers 35 short-term certificate programs and provides services through Adult Education to over 1,000 literacy, ABE/GED and alternative high school students. Last year the corporate education area served 103 businesses by providing 900 courses of training and assisting in the development of more than 400 jobs.

Accreditation History

John A. Logan College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), a part of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). NCA, founded in 1895, is one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States. The College's last comprehensive evaluation was in 1997, and was approved for a ten-year accreditation. A follow-up report was approved in August, 2000. The College is scheduled for its next evaluation in February 2007.

Significant Changes in the Last Ten Years

John A. Logan College is a different college than it was ten years ago. While preserving its rich heritage of quality education and affordability, the College has initiated programs and proposals that will confidently position it for the future. With the focus on strategic planning and student learning outcomes, expanding facilities for career and wellness programs, and addressing the diversity of workforce needs, the College affirms its commitment to its central mission of learning.

Significant Institutional Changes and Developments Occurring Since 1997

- 1997**
- A five year assessment plan is designed and eight educational goals and outcomes are identified through a nominal group process. An assessment advisory committee is established to address ways to institutionalize the results of assessment for continual improvement.



- A full service extension center opens in Du Quoin.
- John A. Logan College Foundation initiates capital campaign with \$150,000 seed contribution.
- The Capital Development Board approves the College's \$16.4 million building project.
- The College establishes the Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Leadership. The mission of the center is to promote a process that will provide tools, training, and support for the instructional staff that enhances teaching, learning and leadership. Excellence awards and the Center for Excellence merit award are presented to employees by the President.
- The College approves a curriculum guide for developmental education

1998

- First Internet course (non-credit) is offered.
- The College initiates a \$16.4 million building project that includes a vocational-technical building, a nursing and science building, a fine arts addition, a conference center, additional classrooms, and a small concession building.
- Due to significant student growth, administrative reorganization appoints associate deans in charge of each instructional area of the College.
- The John A. Logan College Adult Education's Career Journey project is awarded a major award from the American Association of Community Colleges and the United States Department of Labor.
- Workforce Development and Community Education Department is established.
- Federal transportation legislation funds \$1.05 million for improvements on Greenbriar Road, the main entrance from Route 13 to John A. Logan College.
- John A. Logan College enters into a housing and bussing agreement with Southern Illinois University.

1999

- Voters within the College district pass a tax rate referendum that would annually generate nearly \$1 million for the College.
- Centralized scheduling office and facility usage policies and fees are established
- The policy addresses the recommendation of the 1997 Higher Learning Commission report.
- Vice-President for Administration, Don Middleton, retires after a 30-year tenure at the College. Dr. Maxine Pyle is appointed Vice-President for Administration.
- To address growth and reorganization, twenty-one new positions are created at the College in 1999.



- 2000**
 - Dr. Ray Hancock retires as the 5th President of John A. Logan College. Dr. Robert Mees, Vice-President for Instructional Services at John A. Logan College, is selected as the 6th President.
 - The College offers its first on-line Internet credit course.
 - The College signs Dual Credit agreements with all 11 feeder high schools.
 - Vice-President for Business Operations, Jim Bales, retires after a 24-year tenure at the College. Mr. J. P. Barrington is appointed Vice-President for Business Services.
 - Illinois Department of Central Management Services designates John A. Logan College as a “Southern Regional Training Center.”

- 2001**
 - John A. Logan College receives credit for their role in encouraging the construction of a new Aisin USA Manufacturing auto parts plant in Williamson County.
 - An educational alliance between John A. Logan College and Franklin University makes it possible for students to earn a bachelor’s degree through all on-line classes.

- 2002**
 - The College develops a comprehensive two-year plan with a five-year vision that is aligned with the mission and objectives of the College.
 - John A. Logan College opens a new ACT Center.
 - John A. Logan College joins the PK-16 Southern Illinois Education Alliance to promote support and resources for all levels of education in the region.

- 2003**
 - Electronic signage is added to the John A. Logan College campus. The sign facing Route 13 runs multiple College messages and announcements.
 - John A. Logan College acquires the domain name jalc.edu to make the College easily identifiable on the Internet.
 - The College opens The Write Place, a new student service that provides students with one-on-one writing assistance.

- 2004**
 - John A. Logan College completes the construction of the Community Health Education Complex and the Workforce Development and Construction Management Facility.
 - Dr. Maxine Pyle retires as Vice-President for Administration and Dr. Larry Peterson is appointed to the position.

- 2005**
 - John A. Logan College Adult Education Program participates in a nationwide Department of Education pilot program on Student Achievement in Reading (STAR).
 - John A. Logan College receives a five-year Development Grant under the Strengthening Institutions Program, authorized under Title III, Part A of the



Higher Education Act of 1965 for a total of \$1,800,000. The grant's goal is to develop a teaching and learning center.

- 2006**
- An electronic College Catalog is created.
 - The College guarantees block scheduling courses to complete an Associate of Arts degree in one year.
 - The College completes conversion to Advanced Programs for Educational Computer Systems (APECS) information management system.
 - Dr. Robert Mees introduces a strategic planning process, entitled, “Logan at 50.”
 - John A. Logan College joins Connect SI. Connect SI is a 20-county effort to develop a regional broadband economic strategy for southern Illinois.

Responses to Challenges

The 1997, the accreditation evaluation team recognized John A. Logan College for effectively accomplishing its mission and objectives through its strong relationship with the community, students, and the other constituents; its strong financial base, its pivotal role in regional workforce and economic development; and its responsiveness to the needs of special populations. Comprehensive learning resources services and technology support, state-of-the-art career program facilities, career program advisory committees, multicultural and international efforts, and faculty mentoring programs were also noted as strengths of the institution.

As requested, John A. Logan College submitted progress reports on recommended planning and assessment processes in June, 2000. These plans were approved and have provided guidance for a ten-year history of assessment and planning.

Assessment

Under the direction of a coordinator of assessment, the assessment initiative has shown steady progress toward assessing student academic achievement. General education goals were identified through a deliberative process that included internal and external stakeholders. Program and departmental student learning outcomes and evaluative measures were identified and analysis of assessment data is used for program improvement. John A. Logan College was accepted into the first cohort group for the Higher Learning Commission Assessment Academy and is currently developing an action plan to ensure the assessment of student learning in all educational programs, including adult basic education, literacy and corporate training.



Planning

The operational plan was redesigned to provide broader input from all employees, prioritization and measurement of objectives, and timelines for completion. Although this process was useful, senior leaders determined that the budget-driven operational plan was limited in scope. In August 2006, a strategic planning process was initiated to assist the College in future-oriented planning.

Additional Changes

- Deliberate measures have been instituted to enhance communication through intranet postings of documents and committee minutes, internal and external surveys, open campus discussions, recognition programs, and focus groups.
- Facilities for student services programs have been enlarged in C wing.
- College resources now support former grant positions in Assessment, Student Support Services and Minority Transfer Center.
- Instituted testing for placement in English and mathematics courses.
- Diversity initiatives have provided training, recruitment, and mentoring for underserved groups.
- Review of hiring processes resulted in a revised hiring policy and manual.
- Extension centers in Du Quoin and West Frankfort were established and area high school classrooms are used to deliver courses.
- Expanded partnership with Man-Tra-Con provides classrooms for Certified Nursing Assistant Program.
- Facilities scheduling is consolidated in the Scheduling Office.
- APECS, a management information system, coordinates all educational and financial information.
- Significant expenditures support expanded technology infrastructures, software acquisition, and technical support services.
- Needs assessment is an integral part of the strategic planning process (SWOT).
- Financial Aid office utilizes an online tracking system for financial aid status reports through the student management system.

