The Office of Institutional Advancement (OIA) has been run by Dr. Van Patterson, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, and Ms. Donna Yates, Administrative Assistant, since 2001. Their responsibilities include running day-to-day operations, gift solicitation, advertising, public relations, alumni affairs, endowed scholarships, and working with the Panola College Foundation and Alumni Boards. Below is a list of some of the department’s accomplishments for the 2011-12 academic year.

The citizens of Panola, Shelby, Marion, and Harrison counties continue to be generous to Panola College. As of August 24, 2012 the College and Foundation received gifts totaling in excess of $642,000. When combined with gifts received over the previous 10 years, the cumulative total exceeds $4.4 million.
On December 2 Mr. David Murphy, Carthage Rotary Club President, presented Mrs. Carol Vincent, Panola College Foundation Chair, with a check for $1,500. “I am sincerely grateful to the Carthage Rotary Club for its support,” said Vincent. “The College is growing and continues to bring prominence to our community. This gift will help strengthen our endowment which in turn will provide long-term support for scholarships, faculty grants, and eventually some funding to help meet unexpected needs of the College.”

Ray and Angie Hollingsworth of Winnsboro, Texas celebrated their son’s graduation from Panola College by having a paver placed in the College’s Walkway of Honor to commemorate his achievement. “I thought the paver was a unique way of recognizing Kanen’s hard work, said Mrs. Hollingsworth. “Panola College was a good place for him to begin his college career, and I am pleased that there will always be a reminder that Kanen was here.” The Panola College Walkway of honor is located at the entrance to the M. P. Baker Library. It contains granite and clay pavers recognizing alumni and friends of the College.
Panola College’s graduation ceremony was a little different this year as a new stage was incorporated into the event. Measuring 16 by 32 feet, the stage allowed the College to add additional seating while at the same time giving parents and guests a better view of the ceremony. “Acquiring the stage was a priority for Dr. Powell, and we were able to quickly purchase it because of the generosity of Mrs. Frances Ross,” said Dr. Van Patterson, Vice President of Institutional Advancement. “Mrs. Ross is a very kind woman who understands that accumulating possessions is not the secret to happiness. She has been a good friend of the College and the Panola College Foundation, and we are thankful for her support.”

~ Endowed Scholarships ~

This year four endowed scholarships, valued at $140,500, were established at Panola College. The scholarships include the Lynn C. Vincent Honorary Scholarship, The Dr. & Mrs. C.D. Baker Endowed Scholarship, and the Maurine Baker & Mary Louise Baker Endowed Scholarship. One set of donors asked that their names be kept confidential. The addition of these new endowments brings the number of scholarships available for Panola College students to 128. This year the OIA awarded scholarships with a combined value of $52,350. A majority of these scholarships were awarded based on student financial need.

The generosity of donors who have already established scholarships at Panola College was inspiring. Together, they added an additional $203,320 to existing scholarships which brought the combined value of all of the College’s endowed scholarships to $3,139,887.
The 2011-2012 Panola College Foundation Board includes Carol Vincent - Chair, Travis Wall, Wanda Hanszen, Bobby Phillips, Cindy Griffin, Stuart Lipsey, Jean Bunyard, Robert Sherman, Fannie Watson, Jackie Robinson, Sandy Payne, Matt Pool and David Chadwick – Vice Chair. (Not Shown: Kevin Smith, Tate Barber, Patricia Smith, Gene Giles, Brett Biggs).

Meeting the needs of the College

Foundation Grants Strengthen College

(L to R): Wanda Hanszen, David Chadwick, Carol Vincent, Kevin Rutherford, Matt Pool, Fannie Watson, Sandra Payne, Jean Bunyard, and Cindy Griffin

Board members stand with models purchased through a $1,017 grant provided by the Foundation. Biology professor, Kevin Rutherford, met the group and thanked them for their generosity. “Anatomy and
Physiology 1 and 2 courses are increasingly in demand as more and more students choose to train for a career in the healthcare industry,” said Rutherford. “These models and otoscope sets will help ensure that students continue to have well stocked classrooms and labs within which to learn.”

Anatomy Models Arrive at SRTC

Photo: Dr. Gregory Powell, Fannie Watson, and Natalie Oswalt.

Dr. Gregory Powell, President of Panola College, and Natalie Oswalt, Director of Shelby County Operations, met with Mrs. Fannie Watson, Foundation Board member, to inspect several new anatomy and physiology models purchased through a grant provided by the Panola College Foundation. “We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the members of the Panola College Foundation for their support of Shelby County and the students we have the privilege of training,” said Oswalt. “The models purchased with the grant are an excellent addition to our inventory and will be greatly utilized by students enrolled in Anatomy & Physiology courses. There are currently 120 students enrolled in Anatomy and Physiology lab courses here at the Shelby Regional Training Center, and we appreciate the investment you have made in the educational success of our current and future students.”

This year the Panola College Foundation also:

- Sponsored the College’s first Academic Conference. The conference focused on the importance of a collegiate education for the sake of understanding the principles that are necessary to living a good life.

- Sponsored a field trip for the Fine Arts Department. Mrs. Ann Boland, art professor, expressed appreciation to the Panola College Foundation at its November meeting for the grant that made the trip possible. She said that the trip was special to her because for 20 of the 54 students who participated, it was their first time to ever visit a museum.

- Provided eight scholarships this year, an increase of two over the previous year.
• Provided a faculty grant that was used to pay for two Elmo projectors for the Health Science Division
• Promoted the SGA 5K Run to area media, community calendars, and local running clubs
• Sought corporate sponsors for the 5K Run which added $6,000 to the total amount raised by the event
• Worked to increase faculty participation in the 5K Run by creating prizes for participants
• Awarded faculty grants valued in excess of $20,000 on August 20

Fundraising

iPad2

*Mrs. Paula Fults, Cosmetology Instructor, and Angie Colle (left) and Amber Smith (right), students in Panola College’s Nail Technology program, hold the Apple iPad 2.*

The Panola College Foundation sold tickets for a chance to win a brand new Apple iPad2, 32 GB, Wi-Fi capable tablet computer. The Foundation is grateful to Farmers State Bank, the First State Bank and Trust Company, and Panola National Bank for underwriting this project. Without the support of these great corporate neighbors it would have been much more difficult to conduct this fundraising effort.

*And the winner is… Mrs. Marjorie Doggett!*

*Photo: Van Patterson, Marjorie Doggett, Carol Vincent, and David Chadwick*

On Thursday, December 8 Mrs. Carol Vincent, Panola College Foundation Chair, Mr. David Chadwick, Foundation Board member, and Dr. Van Patterson, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, met at Farmers State Bank to award Mrs. Marjorie Doggett an iPad2 tablet computer. Mrs. Doggett was this year’s winner of the Panola College Foundation Raffle which raised over $6,200.
The Panola College Student Government Association 5K Run and Strong Man competition proved to be a huge success for Panola College and the city of Carthage. Despite cool temperatures on the morning of the event, more than 240 participants took part in the 5K Run.

Panola College student, Danny Dee, came in first place with a time of 18.43 minutes, while dual credit student and Carthage High School senior, Madison Brown, placed first in the women’s category with a time of 22.23. Other runners finishing in the top 12 positions included Aaron Singh, Russell Reistad, Art Horton, Gary Brumley, Brandon Rushing, Kevin Smith, Kelton Crenshaw, Adam Hambrick, Kristan Carroll, and Tate Barber.

We are very thankful for our sponsors. This event would not have been as successful without the support of the First State Bank & Trust Co, KGAS 104.3 FM, Cassity Jones Lumber & Home Improvement, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Rusk County Electric Cooperative, Inc., Joe's Car Spa - Center, TX, Wilmore Snacks Sales - Keithville, LA, Panola National Bank, East Texas
Medical Center Carthage, Pippen Motor Company, the City of Carthage, the Carthage Rotary Club, the Carthage Lions Club, Ace Hardware of East Texas, Chris Mauritten / Halo Branded Solutions, The Underwood Law Office, Sodexo - Panola College Campus Dining, Central Baptist Church, Tate Barber - State Farm Insurance, Veterans of Foreign Wars - Post 5620, Golden Eye Associates, Holiday Inn Express and the Baymont Inn and Suites.

The total eventually reached $26K…

On Friday, April 27 members of the Panola College Student Government Association (SGA) presented a check for $25,000 to the Panola College Foundation. The students, under the guidance of Professor Brian Naples, organized its second annual 5K Run which was held on April 21. The SGA held its first 5K Run last year after the Panola College Foundation helped sponsor a SGA trip to Austin where students learned about the financial challenges faced by community colleges across the State. “We are once again grateful to Professor Naples and all those who donated or participated in the event,” said Carol Vincent, Foundation Chair. “Their hard work and dedication will benefit future students as the funds received will be used to increase the Foundation endowment and provide additional faculty grants. I am also grateful to all the Panola College faculty and staff and Foundation Board members who helped make the Run a success. It was encouraging to see so many of them either participating in the event or helping by handing out bottles of water at the finish line or selling t-shirts. The event is just another example of the wonderful things that go on at Panola College every day and shows why the citizens in our community can be proud of their local community college.”
On Thursday, April 26 Mr. Rick Hanning, Luminant Community Relations Manager, presented Mrs. Carol Vincent, Panola College Foundation Chair, with a $1,000 check for the Panola College Foundation’s Sustainers Group. In 2011 there were 42 members of the Panola College Sustainers group. Together they contributed $41,250. These funds were used to help build the Foundation’s endowment.

Unrestricted Gifts Received 2011-12

- $42,250
- $26,507
- $4,850
- $6,205
- $1,000

- Annual Campaign
- SGA 5K Run
- iPad2 Drawing
- Gifts in Kind
- Sustainers Group
Panola College Foundation Endowments

On September 29, 2010 the Panola College Foundation established an endowment as a way to create a long-term revenue stream to help meet the needs of the College. Monies earned from this fund are considered unrestricted and as such provide the Foundation and the College additional flexibility in how they are used.

Market Value of Endowments as of 07/31/12

The Cooper Endowment is the result of a planned gift left to the Panola College Foundation by Mrs. Eleanor Cooper. Earnings are used to fund scholarships that are awarded based on academic excellence and financial need. It also provides financial support to the Health Science and Fine Arts Divisions. Mrs. Cooper’s generosity has had a tremendous impact on the College and the lives of hundreds of students.

~ Alumni Affairs ~

This year the OIA started a Facebook page for the Panola College Alumni Association. The site houses pictures and articles dating back over a decade. The site also provides alumni with a location to get the latest news about the College and a forum to discuss the experiences at Panola College. Check out www.facebook.com/PanolaCollegeAlumni and like us today!
Jim Payne Named Alumnus of the Year

Mr. Jim Payne, Class of 1964 and 2012 Panola College Alumnus of the Year

The Panola College Alumni Association is proud to announce the selection of Mr. Jimmy D. Payne as the 2012 Panola College Alumnus of the Year.

Jim Payne was born in Carthage, Texas in 1944 and graduated from Carthage High School in 1962. He was recruited by Bill Griffin to play baseball for Panola College. According to Bill O’Neal’s book, Panola College: 1947-1997 The First Half Century, “The 1963 baseball team would feature seven sophomores from the 1962 conference champs, and Bill Griffin recruited several talented freshmen, then molded a superb club. The Ponies won a third consecutive conference crown that year with a 23-5 regular season record. That year the new freshman outfielder, Jimmy Payne, contributed to the winning season by hitting over .300 and not committing an error in 35 games. The 1963 baseball team was the first of four Pony teams to play in the NJCAA World Series.” Payne graduated from Panola College in 1964 with an Associate of Arts Degree.
~ Advertising ~

The OIA continues to oversee radio, television, newspaper, and outdoor advertising that pertain to fall, spring and summer registration. It also purchases advertisements in area high school yearbooks, athletic programs, and regional magazines. An average of 80 press releases is distributed annually to area media outlets, faculty, staff, students, alumni and area high school counselors. The department also continues to maintain an online news webpage at www.panola.edu/home/press-releases.html, which contains copies of press releases and pictures dating back to 2001. The OIA also helped promote the annual SGA 5K Run and Murphy-Payne events, Panola College’s 65th Anniversary, and numerous other College activities.

~ Public Relations ~

This year the OIA helped sponsor community activities such as the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life, the Carthage Rotary Club’s Golf Tournament, the annual Lion’s Club Program, the Panola Fillies Golf Tournament, Rowe’s Performing Arts performance of The Nutcracker Ballet, Take a Kid Fishing, and Family Traditions: Eight Keys to a Better Me program. In addition, pens with the Panola College logo and contact information were provided to Mission Carthage to be distributed as needed.

Dr. Patterson is an Ambassador for the Panola County Chamber of Commerce and represents the College at various Chamber events. He is also a member of the Carthage Rotary Club.