Since our establishment, Walters State’s primary mission has been to increase access to higher education for all citizens. With an open-door admissions policy, the college enrolls all qualified students who want to improve their lives through education. We offer affordable, technical education programs that prepare students for in-demand jobs in our community as well as university parallel programs for students who want to transfer to four-year institutions.

While we are still as committed as ever to enhancing access to college, Walters State and other Tennessee Board of Regents community colleges have a renewed focus on increasing retention and completion rates. We do not only want more individuals to attend college, but we also want to create an environment in which more of our students, a majority of whom are first-generation college students with job and family responsibilities, finish their degrees.

This year’s annual report highlights the initiatives Walters State’s dedicated faculty and staff are developing and implementing to improve degree completion rates, from more effectively engaging students through technology to innovative programs and course schedules.

Through the commitment of the college’s faculty and staff, the leadership of our governing board, the TBR, and the unprecedented support of Walters State Foundation trustees, Walters State is well positioned to meet the important challenge of helping more students succeed in achieving their educational goals.

Walters State Community College Mission

Walters State is a learning-centered, comprehensive, public community college dedicated to increasing educational attainment and supporting economic development by providing affordable, high quality educational opportunities for the residents of East Tennessee.

To accomplish the mission, the college:

- offers programs of study that lead to the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Science in Teaching, and Associate of Applied Science degrees or certificates in programs of study of one year or less
- delivers public service and non-credit programs in support of workforce development and personal enrichment
- employs highly qualified faculty and staff
- fosters and inspires student engagement and success
- provides convenient access through multiple campuses and advanced technology
- partners with other educational institutions to promote access and facilitate articulation and transfer
- pursues external sources of support and entrepreneurial initiatives
- assesses and responds to community needs
- provides opportunities for promoting diversity and cultural awareness to enhance quality of life
- pursues resourcefulness, effectiveness and efficiency through comprehensive accountability and continuous improvement programs.

Walters State Community College Vision

Walters State will be a premier community college, committed to increasing educational attainment and workforce preparedness through excellence in teaching and service.

Tennessee Board of Regents

The Honorable Bill Haslam, Chairman (ex officio)

Governor of the State of Tennessee

Dr. John "Steve" Copeland
Gregory Duckett
John Farris
Tom Griscom
The Honorable Kevin Huffman
Ashley Humphrey, Student Regent 2012-2013
Jonas Kibber

The Honorable Julius Johnson

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Summary of Student Financial Aid Awards
2011-2012 and 2010-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 11-12</th>
<th>FY 10-11</th>
<th>Year Comparison +/-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Awards</td>
<td>Amounts</td>
<td># Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Work Study (FWS)</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>141,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Loans (Direct)</td>
<td>1094</td>
<td>3,823,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell Grant</td>
<td>3771</td>
<td>12,309,905</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACG (program terminated)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Educational Opp. Grant (FSEOG)</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>130,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Readjustment Act (TRA/TAA)</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>489,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce Investment Act (WIA)</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>147,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Byrd Scholarship</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gear Up</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>146,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Total</td>
<td>5,564</td>
<td>17,191,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access and Diversity Grants</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>110,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Enrollment</td>
<td>1,228</td>
<td>1,128,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Children's Services</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>29,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping Heroes Grant</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil McWherter Scholars Program</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN Students Assistance Grant (TSAA)</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>1,461,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN Educational Lottery Scholarship (TELS)</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>3,094,051</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocational Rehabilitation</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>139,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waivers</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>459,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of State Waivers</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>297,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Total</td>
<td>4,307</td>
<td>5,448,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Scholarships</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Scholarships (Fees, Books, Housing)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>84,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Entertainment Scholarships</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Performance (APS)</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>467,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access and Diversity Grants</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>121,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Institutional (SGA, Gallery, Cheerleading)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Total</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>709,419</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Scholarships</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>260,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners in Progress</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>68,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County Community Sch.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Total</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>359,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency Scholarships</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>211,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edscholar</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knee Achieves</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>62,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>41,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Total</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>317,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Awards</td>
<td>10,754</td>
<td>24,025,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated Fin Aid Student Count</td>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>5,721</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Increasing Student Success

A total of 65.5 percent of Walters State students are first-generation college students. And a majority of all our students have full-time or part-time jobs as well as family responsibilities. Our goal is to create a learning environment that increases the probability of success for such students. Developing innovative course schedules, utilizing technology to engage students, and enhancing student support services are proving to be effective methods for increasing the number of students who complete degrees and certificates.

Completion
This focus on completion is already producing promising results. In 2011-12, Walters State realized a 32 percent increase over the previous year in the number of degrees and certificates awarded. A total of 1,582 technical certificates and degrees were awarded, 519 more than awarded in 2010-11. The fall-to-spring retention rate was also up in 2011, with 77.1 percent of students who enrolled in fall semester returning for spring semester. In 2010, the retention rate was 76.7 percent.

With the rising number of graduates, Walters State held its first December/fall semester graduation ceremony. President Emeritus Dr. Jack E. Campbell gave the commencement speech, encouraging graduates to set high goals and work hard to attain them.

Enrollment
The 2011-12 enrollment represented the third largest student body in the college’s history, with 6,733 total students and 4,673 FTE students enrolled.
Degree Completion Leads to Jobs

Increasing the educational attainment of degrees and certificates means a more educated workforce for our region. Walters State students have maintained high placement rates despite high regional unemployment rates in recent years. Overall, placement rates for WSCC technical graduates average 92 percent.

The following programs have 100 percent placement rates for spring, summer and fall 2010 graduates, the most recent years available:
- Early Childhood Education
- General Technology
- Health Information Technology
- Engineering Technology
- Information Technology
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Production Horticulture
- Public Safety
- Respiratory Care
- Culinary Arts
- EMT-Paramedic
- Industrial Maintenance

The following programs have 90 percent placement rates for the same period:
- Management
- Nursing
- Basic Law Enforcement Academy

Walters State Community College
Financial Statements

Financial Summary for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Operating Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Tuition and fees (net of scholarship allowances)</td>
<td>$12,156,392.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governmental grants and contracts</td>
<td>$4,361,553.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-governmental grants and contracts</td>
<td>$11,195.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and services of educational departments</td>
<td>$114,240.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and services of other activities</td>
<td>$43,538.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary enterprises</td>
<td>$282,100.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating revenues</td>
<td>$18,398.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,487,418.28</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-operating Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State appropriations</td>
<td>$16,123,158.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts</td>
<td>$79,994.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and contracts</td>
<td>$17,375,605.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>$21,399.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital appropriations</td>
<td>$874,776.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital grants and gifts</td>
<td>$255,891.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non-operating</td>
<td>$1,969,555.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>36,700,381.88</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL REVENUES**  
$54,187,800.16

Operating Expenses by Function

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>$22,442,423.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Service</td>
<td>$4,053,260.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Support</td>
<td>$2,389,508.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services</td>
<td>$5,035,521.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Support</td>
<td>$4,521,087.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation and Maintenance</td>
<td>$5,721,037.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships and Fellowships</td>
<td>$8,182,005.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary</td>
<td>$29,451.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>$282,100.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>56,584,554.33</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non-operating Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest on capital asset-related debt</td>
<td>$33,790.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>33,790.55</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
$56,618,344.88
Walters State Community College
Foundation
Unaudited Statement of Net Assets
June 30, 2012

ASSETS
Current assets:
Cash and cash equivalents $2,087,024.65
Accounts, notes, and grants receivable (net) 14,563.34
Pledges receivable (net) 60,027.48
Prepaid Expenses 8,105.75
Accrued interest receivable 26.72
Total current assets 2,169,747.94
Noncurrent assets:
Investments 9,866,294.65
Pledges receivable (net) 101,454.00
Capital Assets (net) 1,819,618.32
Other Assets 218,257.40
Total noncurrent assets 12,005,624.37
Total assets $14,175,372.31

LIABILITIES
Current liabilities:
Accounts payable 16,607.73
Deferred Revenue 8,000.00
Long-term liabilities, current portion 96,000.00
Total current liabilities 120,607.73
Noncurrent liabilities:
Deferred Revenue 72,000.00
Long-term liabilities 1,079,000.00
Total noncurrent liabilities 1,151,000.00
Total liabilities $1,271,607.73

NET ASSETS
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt 694,618.32
Restricted for:
Nonexpendable:
Scholarships and fellowships 6,577,592.02
Other 1,357,056.10
Expendable:
Scholarships and fellowships 1,644,784.76
Other 2,329,147.97
Unrestricted 300,565.41
Total net assets $12,903,764.58

Making College More Convenient
With a new emphasis on degree completion, Walters State expanded College Express, a cohort program. Students attend one night a week, one class at a time and still graduate with an associate’s degree in two years. Two new cohort degree programs were added this past year: business, a major often desired by students already in the workforce, and clean energy technology, one of the more unique majors at Walters State that is training and retraining workers for future jobs.

Fast Track Math
Fast Track Math gives students the opportunity to complete up to three learning resource (DVS) or college-level mathematics courses in a single semester. This format, meeting every day for several hours, has given many students their first “A” or “B” in a difficult subject. Fast Track Math has enabled students to get past a fear of math and succeed in programs that require a working knowledge of the basics, including nursing and engineering technology. Many students complete all their math requirements in one semester. This intensive approach boasts an 80 percent success rate for most sections.
Completing College Courses in High School

The Walters State Dual Enrollment program gives local high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to earn both college and high school credit in subjects such as English, history, math, and natural science. And while a majority of dual enrollment students take two or three courses to get a jump start on their college education and save money, some extremely motivated students are actually earning enough credits to complete their high school and two-year college degrees simultaneously.

Dual Enrollment graduates this year were, in top picture, Kaley Shepherd of Gatlinburg (center) and Courtney Bohanan of Sevierville (right), pictured with Ronnie Taylor, education director at the Sevier County Campus. The bottom picture shows graduate Tammy Knapp of Greeneville with Drucilla Miller, dean of the Greeneville/Greene County Campus. Not pictured is Aaron Atkins of Morristown.
Using technology to improve completion
Improving degree completion rates is dependent in part upon our ability to connect and engage our students. And Walters State is a leader nationally in integrating technology into curriculum and campus life.

Mobile Learning
Walters State is at the forefront of mobile learning. Through our Academic Mobilization Plan, the college seeks to engage students from admission to graduation via mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets. Each academic division has developed a plan to integrate mobile learning devices and apps into classroom instruction. Faculty members are using over 60 different apps in nearly every subject area to engage students. And the college has made iPads accessible to students through iPad carts used in classrooms and iPads that can be checked out in the library.

Leading the Nation
"Converge Online" and eRepublic’s Center for Education, Technology Training for Students and Faculty, Campus Security Alerts, use of Web 2.0

New Website
Walters State launched a new website in 2012. The content, design and organization of the new site were based on significant input from the college’s primary audience, current and prospective students. In addition to a new design, more compelling content, improved organization, and streamlined navigation, the site includes several new features and areas, such as an enhanced mobile site and the Student Services section in support of our goal to increase student retention and graduation rates.
James Dustin Chandler of Morristown earned an associate of science in mathematics. He was named to the 2011-12 USA Today All Tennessee Academic Team. He served as president of the history club and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

Kara Rountree of Kodak received an associate of science in teaching. She received the Outstanding Student Education Award and an International Travel Scholarship. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and served as treasurer of the Student Tennessee Education Association.

Katey Hopkins of Talbott received an associate of arts in English. She served as president for the folk club, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was nominated for the Outstanding English Award. Her works have been published in "Gallery," the college’s award-winning literary and arts magazine.

President’s Outstanding Student Award Recipients

Ms. Emily B. Kille Principal, Burchfield-Kile Enterprises Sevierville
Mr. David L. Knowles Associate Professor of History Walters State Community College Morristown
Mr. Jerry E. Loar Dean of Public Safety Division and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Walters State Community College, Retired Morristown
Dr. Larry Mangum Veterinarian Morristown
Mr. T. J. McClure* State Department of Education, Retired Dandridge
Dr. Wade B. McCay* President, Walters State Community College Greeneville
Dr. Debra L. McCarter*** (’75) Vice President for Planning, Research, and Assessment Walters State Community College Jefferson City
Mr. John T. McCrary, Jr.*** Principal, Century 21, Masengill-McCrary Realtors Morristown
Mr. Stephen McCrary*** (’82) Principal Broker, Century 21, Masengill-McCrary Realtors, Jefferson City Talbott
Mr. George McSuffett*** Principal, Guttball Development Morristown
Mrs. Judy McSuffett*** Businesswoman Morristown
Mr. Charles A. McSpadden Owner, McSpadden, Inc. Dandridge
Mr. Neil D. Miller Businessman and Agricultural Leader Rogersville
Mr. Sam A. Miller*** President, Consumer Credit Union Greeneville
Mrs. Kathy L. Mullins*** (’83) Hamblen County Circuit Court Clerk, Retired Morristown
Mrs. Linda N. Ogle*** *** Businesswoman Pigeon Forge
Mr. L. Harrell Pendleton Owner, Pendleton Realty Company Morristown
Mr. Ronald L. Perkins Attorney Morristown
Dr. Truett L. Pierce*** Medical Doctor Sevierville
Dr. Richard Polhemus Adjunct Assistant Professor (McClung Museum) UT Department of Anthropology, Retired Sevierville
Dr. H. Scott Reams*** Attorney Morristown
Mr. Robert T. Russell Associate Professor of Industrial Technology Walters State Community College, Retired Morristown
Mr. Donald P. Shell CEO, Red Chair Architects, Inc. Knoxville
Ms. Anderson L. Smith*** President and CEO, Jefferson Federal Bank Morristown
Mrs. Denise Terry Stapleton Attorney Whitesburg
Mr. F. Braxton Terry*** (’90) Attorney Morristown
Mr. H. Scott Reams** Attorney Morristown
Mr. Richard Polhemus Adjunct Assistant Professor (McClung Museum) UT Department of Anthropology, Retired Sevierville
Mr. Robert T. Russell Associate Professor of Industrial Technology Walters State Community College, Retired Morristown
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Ms. Anderson L. Smith*** President and CEO, Jefferson Federal Bank Morristown
Mrs. Denise Terry Stapleton Attorney Whitesburg
Mr. F. Braxton Terry*** (’90) Attorney Morristown
Mr. Glenn B. Thompson** Certified Public Accountant Morristown
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Mr. Charles H. Whitfield, Jr.* Chairman, Wells Fargo Insurance Services of Tennessee, Inc., Retired Morristown
Mr. Heiskell H. Whisenbou Attorney Bulls Gap

Kathy Hopkins of Talbott received an associate of arts in English. She served as president for the folk club, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and served as treasurer of the Student Tennessee Education Association.
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2011-2012 Distinguished Faculty Members: Teaching, Motivating, Engaging

Julia Bell, assistant professor of computer and information science, has been with Walters State for five years. Bell is a pioneer in the use of mobilization in the classroom. She also established a popular Computer Clinic. Community members bring their computers to receive basic services from students, who in turn get to practice customer service skills.

Sarah Eichelman, associate professor of English, has been with Walters State for 36 years. She teaches English composition and creative writing. Eichelman has also served as a faculty advisor to “Gallery,” Walters State’s award-winning literary and arts magazine.

Doug Keith, associate professor of criminal justice, has been with the college for 14 years. His responsibilities include managing the college’s driver training facility. In addition to teaching Walters State students and area law enforcement professionals, he provides defensive driving training each semester at area high schools.

Dr. Crystal Rice, associate professor of mathematics, has been at Walters State for 12 years. Rice was part of the implementation of the highly successful Fast Track Math program. Rice is a recipient of the WSCC Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Dr. Crystal Rice
Sarah Eichelman
Doug Keith
Julia Bell
Yesterday’s Students, Today’s Leaders

Walters State held the second annual Distinguished Alumni Recognition Program as part of the May meeting of the Walters State Foundation. Eight outstanding alumni were recognized.

The Walters State Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor the college bestows on former students. The award is given to alumni who have demonstrated outstanding service in their profession and/or community and have brought honor and distinction to Walters State.

This year, the college recognized eight outstanding alumni for meritorious service in the areas of civic, professional, athletics, and community and/or volunteer service.

For the 2011-12 academic year, 207 foundation scholarships in the amount of $354,000 were awarded to Walters State students. In addition to the Gilley scholarship, newly endowed scholarships included one in the amount of $213,000: the J.C. Douthat Memorial Scholarship. And a $50,000 endowed scholarship was established in memory of Wilma Rimmer Bush.

In support of college facilities, the foundation provided $250,000 in matching funds toward building renovations at the Walters State Claiborne County Campus. Renovations include refurbishing the auditorium and adding a student services area and chemistry and nursing labs.

Mike Fishman, editor and publisher of the Citizen Tribune, was recognized during the foundation trustees’ annual meeting in May for his services as foundation president for 2011-12. Pictured with Fishman is Walters State President Dr. Wade McCamey.

At the Walters State Great Smoky Mountains Expo Center, the foundation purchased a house and property located next to the Expo Center for $60,000. The property was purchased for future expansion of the Expo Center.

At the college’s Greeneville/Greene County Campus, $250,000 toward the expansion of that campus was donated by trustee and local philanthropist Scott Niswonger. The college is building a new 84,000 square-foot building at the Greeneville/Greene County Campus. The new building will provide additional opportunities to grow existing programs and add new ones.
2012 Distinguished Alumni in Athletic Achievement

Ryan Cabbage

Walters State’s first national championship in 1995 when he earned the NJCAA Individuals National Golf Championship. He has been an assistant coach at Auburn and is currently the head golf coach at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte.

2012 Distinguished Alumni in Community Service

Dr. Crystal Rice

As an associate professor, she is just as committed to improving the community as she is to her students. She has led numerous public service initiatives in the community and at Walters State.

2012 Distinguished Alumni in Civic Achievement

Bill Brittain

Bill Brittain, Hamblen County Mayor, has spent most of his career in public service, including 16 years as Hamblen County Trustee.

2012 Distinguished Alumni in Professional Achievement

Richard Clark

Richard Clark began as an engineer with Michelin North America and quickly moved up the ranks. He currently is vice president for standards and regulations for emerging zones on five continents.

Judge Michael Murphy

Judge Michael Murphy has had a distinguished career in law, both in private practice and as a judge. He worked in Morristown’s first legal aid office, giving free legal assistance to those in need and he has headed his own firm for the past 32 years.

F. Braxton Terry

F. Braxton Terry is one of the leading products liability/personal injury attorneys in Tennessee. He has been admitted to practice before both the Tennessee Supreme Court and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Walters State Foundation plays an integral role in the success of our students. From endowed scholarships to facilities improvement, the foundation provides opportunities for individuals to achieve their academic and professional goals.

The Ruby L. Gilley Memorial Scholarship was endowed in the amount of $151,000. The late Ruby Gilley, shown in the framed picture in the above photo, bequeathed the gift to fund scholarships for nursing students. It will fund up to three scholarships a year.
Walters State’s Division of Community Education offers non-credit courses that prepare students for jobs in fields like healthcare, industrial technology, manufacturing, human resources, data and information, accounting and business. Some community education students also take classes to stay current in their profession or add additional skills. The number of courses offered expanded greatly over the past year, with students taking 3,029 courses. This marks a significant increase over the 1,155 taken in 2011.

The largest expansion in community education programs has been in response to the growing need for healthcare professionals in our service area. New programs offered this year include the Medical Administrative Assistant Program, which enables students to sit for the National Health Career Association’s Certified Medical Administrative Assistant Exam. The college’s partnership with Boston Reed College has produced new courses, including the Medical Clinical Assistant, which trains students to perform basic lab work, administer medicine and work directly with a physician in providing patient care.

Community Education also provides several youth outreach programs and 2012 marked a milestone for a popular one. Walters State’s Talented and Gifted Program celebrated 30 years of serving the region’s academically gifted middle school students. Classes continue to evolve with input from principals and participants. This year, students enthusiastically embraced a new focus on science, technology and engineering.

The classroom is only one place where learning happens at Walters State. Students experience a broad range of cultural and international experiences, leaving students better prepared to compete in a global economy.

Opening Eyes to the World and the Arts

Global Connections, a student-funded initiative, brought the world to Walters State last year with special lectures, musicians and artists, filmmakers and hands-on workshops. In 2011-12, eight students received International Travel Scholarships through the college’s annual essay competition. Students also traveled to international cultural sites in Washington D.C., including war memorials and the U.S. Holocaust Museum.

The Mildred Haun Conference honored Wilma Dykeman in 2012. Students, scholars, writers and musicians traveled from throughout Appalachia to celebrate the scholarship and literature of the region in February. Highlights included best-selling writers Sharyn McCrumb and Silas House. The conference ended with a standing-room-only performance of Dykeman’s “The Tall Woman.”

Cultural events this year included art exhibits ranging from traditional to abstract; concerts featuring jazz, choral and pop, and theatre productions on both the Morristown and Sevier County Campus. This year’s productions were Allan Knee’s adaption of “Little Women” and “Alice in Wonderland.”
Improving With Quality, Completion, and Students In Mind

Non-Credit HIT Training
Walters State’s noncredit Health Information Technology Program trains employees to implement electronic health records. The online program was launched in 2010 and received a no-cost extension this year. With funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the cost of the training has been minimal. Top left: Ginger Keyes trains students in the application of electronic health records.

Fire Science Program Recognized Nationally
Walters State became one of only eight community colleges (and one of only 16 total higher education institutions) to be recognized by the U.S. Fire Administration’s National Fire Academy’s Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education Network. The network is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

WSCC Named Tennessee’s Safest Campus
Walters State ranked as Tennessee’s safest college campus and the 12th safest in the country, according to a survey of 450 colleges by StateUniversity.com. Having a well-trained and certified police department is one reason Walters State was named one of the country’s safest campuses.

Serving Those Who Serve
“G.I.Jobs,” an online magazine for veterans, honored Walters State by naming it a military friendly college again this year. Bottom left: Jacob Moss, who served as a Marine in the Afghanistan War, is now enrolled in Walters State’s fire science program. His education is being paid for with his post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

Center for Workforce Development: Meeting the Workforce Needs of 10 Counties

Walters State’s Center for Workforce Development, funded through the Workforce Investment Act and the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, met or exceeded goals in all 13 areas judged by the state. Examples include employment, job retention, youth literacy, and completion of training. In doing so, the Center met the individual needs of almost 1,000 adult and youth. Services ranged from basic skills to job placement to comprehensive training.

Thomas Talley went to work one day a few years ago and was told he was no longer needed. Like thousands affected by the recession, he started his mid-life career change at a Tennessee Career Center. With financial aid to assist with tuition and WIA funding to help with living expenses, Talley enrolled in the nursing program at Walters State. He graduated near the top of his class in 2012.

WIA Youth Services Honors Participant, Employer
Chris Johnson of Morristown was named the 2012 WIA Youth Services Participant of the Year and Mike McGhee of Mike’s Body Shop in Jefferson County was named WIA Youth Services Employer of the Year. Almost 400 students are served through WIA Youth Services. The program works to make the transition from teen to young adult a smooth one. Case managers in each county work with individual students to prepare for postsecondary studies or the workforce.
Debate Team Racks Up Trophies
For the Walters State Debate Team, 2011-12 will be remembered as one of its most successful years. At Carson-Newman College’s Porch Swing Debate Tournament, the team took first place team and individual honors. Individual debate team members won over 30 awards at tournaments throughout the region, while gaining a skill that will serve them well throughout their careers.

Ag Club 2011-12 Winter Horse Series
Proceeds from ten years of the Ag Club Winter Horse Series topped $109,000 this year. All of the money – after expenses – has been used to fund scholarships for Ag students and to endow an Ag Club Scholarship through the Walters State Foundation. Over 1,000 people participated in this year’s series. Events ranged from calf roping to the ranch rodeo to the popular speed show.

Phi Theta Kappa Named Five-Star Chapter of Light
Walters State’s Alpha Beta Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for community colleges, received the highest chapter recognition at the organization’s state convention. The chapter was named both a Five-Star Chapter and a Chapter of Light. Dr. Lisa Eccles received a first place award as distinguished advisor. The chapter brought home a total of 16 awards and two students – Sara Stevers and Taylor Ellis – were chosen to serve at the regional level as officers.

Senators/Lady Senators Excel in Athletics and Academics
The Lady Senators basketball team and the Senators golf team both earned berths to national tournaments. The entire Walters State athletic program scored high where it matters most: retention among athletes is 70 percent.

Walters State students excel outside the classroom through programs and services that complement the college’s academic programs. Student clubs and teams, honors programs, community service projects and intercollegiate athletics give students the opportunity to develop their talents and leadership potential. Pictured above, Ashley Williams, an English major from Greeneville, received the inaugural R. Jack Fishman Author Recognition for student writing. Williams’ "Broken Identity" was published by Destiny Images.