

Roane State | Today



Letter | from the President

Providing financial assistance to highly qualified students has long been a distinguishing characteristic of Roane State Community College. Throughout much of our history, the college has “invested” significant state dollars toward scholarship initiatives while deliberately developing, through our Roane State Foundation, a sound financial structure for directing significant private dollars to dedicated deserving students. The combined effort of these funding sources has positively impacted the lives of thousands of students attending Roane State. Given the recent reduction in state appropriations over the past few years coupled with the uncertainty of future state support, the institution may be forced to reduce the amount of institutional dollars going into scholarship accounts.



As evidenced by our cover story in this edition, a great deal of interest has been generated in our state through the creation of the Tennessee Lottery. While we are excited about the enhanced opportunities for financial assistance for a number of our students, significant is the fact that many of our current and future students, primarily our adult students, will not qualify for lottery scholarships. And, before you incorrectly attribute this omission to an inferior grade point average or quality issue, let me hasten to point out that it is the language of the lottery bill that is responsible for this dilemma. Stated another way, many of our most deserving students will not be eligible for state lottery scholarship dollars.

Given the reality of the lottery regulations coupled with reduced state dollars, the only avenue available for the deserving adult students will be the funds available from private sources. In the near future, you will be receiving information about the college’s major fund raising initiative, appropriately named “Invest in the Vision”. A major component of this campaign is an appeal to extend pathways to learning through scholarships. As you consider this initiative, please take time to reflect upon your time at Roane State and how the college influenced and/or impacted your life. Your support could assist another student to gain the same life-changing experiences that you encountered during your time at Roane State Community College.

Therefore, my appeal to each of you is simply this. Consider a gift that would permit you to “Invest in the Vision” campaign. All gifts, whether large or small, will make a significant impact. While the Tennessee Lottery is a game of chance, we feel we can ill afford to take a chance with the lives and future careers of our students.

Wade B. McCamey

Caps and Gowns | commencement

Join us for graduation 2004 . . .

Roane State to Hold Two Graduation Ceremonies



Have you been to a RSCC graduation lately? Because of overcrowding in the gymnasium, recent graduations have often been uncomfortable and unpleasant for our graduates and their families and friends. To alleviate these problems and to enhance the joyous experience of seeing a loved one walk across the stage to receive a degree, Roane State will host two graduation ceremonies this spring.

- **Friday, May 7 at 7 p.m. (eastern) for certificate and Associate of Applied Science degree recipients**
- **Saturday, May 8 at 9 a.m. (eastern) for Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degree recipients**

The two ceremonies will be equal in presentation with academic deans and executive staff attending both ceremonies. Faculty will attend the ceremony most associated with their primary academic field. We hope you can join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

Roane State alumnus Dr. Ron D. Ford will be the keynote speaker at both graduation ceremonies. Dr. Ford is president of Wells DC, a real estate holding company, and chief financial strategist of Wells Real Estate Funds, one of the world's largest owners of office buildings.

Originally from Lenoir City, Dr. Ford received his associate's degree from Roane State in 1981, his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Tennessee and his MBA from Vanderbilt University. He also earned a doctorate in Executive Management from the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University. He serves as national president of the alumni association for Vanderbilt University and is on the boards of Young Presidents' Organization, Holy Innocents' Episcopal School and St. Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta.



Roane State Presents |
performing and visual arts

"School House Rock—Live"

Engage in nostalgia as the Roane State Playmakers and Concert Choir present this high-energy musical, based on the classic children's show "School House Rock," which first aired 30 years ago. Remember those animated shorts with songs about grammar, math and science that were tucked strategically between Saturday morning cartoons? This stage version features the best numbers from the series, such as "Conjunction Junction (What's Your Fun tion?)," "Interplanet Janet (She's a Galaxy Girl!)," and "I Am A Bill (Waiting Here on Capitol Hill)." The play begins at 8 p.m. eastern each evening in the theatre on the Roane County Campus. Tickets are \$7; RSCC Playmakers & RSCC Music Department, April 15-17 & 22-24. (865) 882-4589.

