



SHORTER
COLLEGE
FOUNDED 1886

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021-2022



SHORTER COLLEGE
SHERMAN-TYREE BUILDING
RENOVATED NOVEMBER 2021

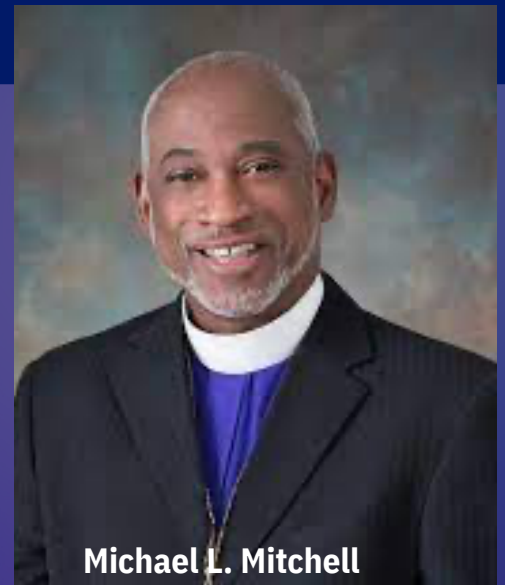


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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Shorter College, I wish to extend congratulations to the President of the Council of Bishops, Bishop Ronnie Brailsford, Chairman of the Higher Education Commission, Bishop Marvin Zanders, Senior Bishop, Bishop Adam J. Richardson, President of the General Board, Bishop Paul Kawimbe, Bishops of the Church, Episcopal Supervisors, General and Connectional Officers, Members of the General Board, Members of the Higher Education Commission and the entire constituency of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.



Michael L. Mitchell
Bishop of the 12th District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

To God be the Glory for the things which are being done at Shorter College, under the leadership of our President, Dr. O. Jerome Green, who is working diligently with the Board of Trustees, administration, and faculty and support staff to ensure that Shorter College continues to excel in Academic Excellence. During this global pandemic, the Board of Trustees of Shorter College, the members of the 12th Episcopal District and I continue to be proud of our President, Dr. O. Jerome Green who has worked diligently in making sure that the student continues to receive a quality education.

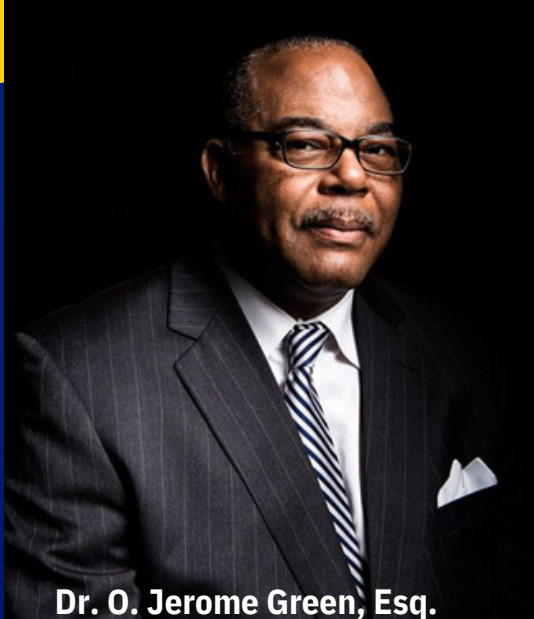
The students of Shorter are often admonished to refer to the *Tools of Success* given to them; to ever remain a person of *Competency, Character, Citizenship and Culture*; to chart their unique course according to their hard work and acquired skill sets. They are further admonished to always be mindful of the *Source of Success* within them; to live each day with unwavering faith in the Living God; to submit their abilities, their purpose, their gifts, talents, and even their education to Him, and follow the plan and the path He has waiting for them.

Since we last met as a General Board, President Green has moved the college forward with its beautification projects on the campus of Shorter, and endowment fund has been established. The college had one of its largest graduating classes in 2022. We were also able to celebrate the continuation of an educational opportunity to individuals who are incarcerated through the Second Chance Pell Grant Experimental Program in which we were able to celebrate another graduating class.

I still believe that Shorter College best days are yet to come. Again, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, we thank God for the African Methodist Episcopal Church for your prayers and support. Continue to lift us up, as we continue to shine in North Little Rock and make the African Methodist Episcopal Church Proud!

Bishop Michael L. Mitchell
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dr. O. Jerome Green, Esq.

President of Shorter College

Greetings,

The return to Shorter College for the Fall Semester was driven by the ultimate goal to *Push Past the Pandemic*, and we did just that! The grace of God has truly been bestowed on Shorter College in abundance. We are proud to have returned to the classrooms, the cafeteria, the library and the Chapel conducting school in person and safely. The community joined us in our efforts, by supporting us with over \$750,000 in gifts. The Reimagine Workforce Program has grown exponentially with 50 partnerships with companies willing to host our students as Interns. Shorter College was most proud to have sixty-nine graduates this Spring, the largest class since its reopening in 2012.

Shorter College is excited to have received an anonymous donation of \$200,000 which has already allowed \$31,000 in scholarships to the Second Chance Pell and ANCHOR program students. Through the CARES Act Funding we have been able to issue scholarships and financial incentives to assist our students as they continued their education. We were also able to provide all Shorter College Students a free meal plan during the duration of their attendance in school. Thanks to our gifts this year we were also able to grant another 30 scholarships for our students who excelled academically for the Spring and Fall of 2021.

The Arkansas Department of Health and the Federal COVID Relief Funds have not only ensured that we have a safe and healthy campus, they have also assisted with the reopening of the Vine Street Health Center that is staffed with a physician and nurse. The City of North Little Rock leased the Rock Island Train Depot to the college which is currently under renovation to prepare for the Shorter College Technology Hub. With all of the new improvements and additions to the campus, we are also giving the main campus a renewal. We have given the Sherman-Tyree building a new facelift and the S.S. Morris Building is underway for outer reconstruction and paint.

We thank God for His continued blessings on Shorter College. We pray that we continue to be of service to Him by educating our community. We appreciate your support and continue to solicit your prayers as we continue to strive to offer our students the best Christian-based education possible.

O. Jerome Green, Esq.

ABOUT SHORTER COLLEGE



THE VISION

THE VISION OF SHORTER COLLEGE IS TO REMAIN A FULLY ACCREDITED TWO-YEAR INSTITUTION AND TO ACHIEVE DISTINCTION AS A RESIDENTIAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE THAT EXCELS IN PROVIDING A CHALLENGING TEACHER-LEARNER ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL CREATE A HOLISTIC TRANSFORMATIVE INDIVIDUAL WHO EMBODIES THE "FOUR C'S."

COMPETENCY- THE ABILITY TO PERFORM IN TODAY'S SOCIETY

CHARACTER-THE ABILITY TO DEVELOP A LIFESTYLE OF INTEGRITY

CITIZENSHIP- THE ABILITY TO EMBRACE SOCIAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

CULTURE- THE ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND OPERATE IN A DIVERSE ENVIRONMENT



The Goals

GOAL 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Enrich academic instructional programs and student services to equip students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to become scholastically and professionally productive in today's global society

GOAL2: STUDENT SERVICES

Improve student support services so the services will enrich career goals, as well as academic and co-curricular experiences

GOAL 3: INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

Increase the level of external outreach in order to expand the opportunities for working with other educational institutions, alumni, foundations, government agencies and business partners in ways that increase potential sources of funding and produce associations for mutual benefit

GOAL 4: OPERATIONAL AND RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT

Advance the Institutional and environmental resources by further streamlining the college's operations where efficiencies can be gained, making optimal use of prior investments in systems, re-aligning infrastructure with evolving needs, securing protected information, and minimizing waste attributable to technology use

GOAL 5: STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND RECRUITMENT

Increase student enrollment and refine student recruitment strategies to recruit and retain a diverse student population

Faculty of the General Studies Department

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF SHORTER COLLEGE

The Beginning of an Educational Journey

Founded by the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1886, Shorter College was a logical and pragmatic response to the need of recently freed slaves to overcome the many disadvantages and deprivations of slavery and racial discrimination. [This was a time, a little more than twenty years after the end of the Civil War and the abolition of slavery, when black people had no access to institutions of higher learning.] The prevailing attitude was that blacks had no capacity for learning and the vast majority lacked basic education and skills. The A.M.E. Church took up the mantle providing instruction leading to a general education, but also aimed at developing competent leadership among black people.

In November 1886, under the leadership of Bishop T.M.D. Ward, the Arkansas Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, formulated a plan for establishing an institution of higher learning. Nathan Warren, one of the founders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Arkansas, spent in Xenia, Ohio, at the time Bishop Daniel Payne was president of Wilberforce University 20 Miles outside Dayton, OH. When it opened on September 15, 1886, the school was housed in the basement of Bethel A.M.E. Church on Ninth and Broadway in Little Rock, Arkansas, and was named Bethel University. Its first session opened with an enrollment of 109 students. Little Rock, Arkansas. From September 22, 1895, to January 1898, the college-maintained operations both in North Little Rock and Arkadelphia. In 1898, at the end of a twenty-eight-month transition, the college established itself at 604 Locust Street in North

Little Rock and terminated operation in Arkadelphia. At present the campus sits on three- and one-half blocks of valuable property in the city of North Little Rock.

A Name Change for the Mission

On August 14, 1903, the charter was amended to change the name of the institution to Shorter College, in that same year, the first building was erected and named Tyree Hall. This initiation of physical-plant expansion, which is attributed to Bishop Evans Tyree and President T.H. Jackson, is significant because it represents an unmistakable commitment to a permanent location. As funds became available, buildings were erected and the scope of its offering broadened, at one time providing theological, vocational, and liberal arts programs as four-year college.



Bishop J.A. Shorter

Shorter College's open enrollment policy was of great benefit to the African American population across the state of Arkansas and later Oklahoma. Several of the clergy and lay leaders in the Twelfth Episcopal District graduated from Shorter College and later, Jackson Seminary located on the campus. Other institutions of higher learning in the state of Arkansas were closed to African Americans; therefore,

Shorter's presence served a great educational void.

In 1955, a decision was made to operate the college as a two-year institution under the leadership of President Theophilus D. Alexander and Bishop William R. Wilkes. The prevailing institutional goal was to develop and maintain programs and services characteristic of a first-rate junior college. Its two priorities were the development of a physical plant designed to support its instructional program and goals, and an administration capable of ensuring institutional effectiveness and adherence to the institution's goals.

In May 1970, The Board of Trustees, under the leadership of Bishop D. Ward Nichols, elected Rev. Lonnie Johnson of Lawton, Oklahoma, as president of the college. After serving fourteen months Rev. Johnson resigned and returned to Oklahoma. In September 1980, the board named the Reverend John L. Phillips, Sr., the thirty-seventh president of the college. A man of proven administrative ability, President Phillips received unanimous support from the other administrative officers and the faculty members for his plan to reorganize the administration, which he explained soon after taking office. The plan consisted of three phases: 1) the analysis of the existing administrative organization; 2) the evaluation of the existing administration functions by the criterion of relevance to the mission; and 3) revisions of the administrative system and job descriptions to establish a management-by-objectives administrative style conducive to planning, management, and evaluation that would ensure the relevance of the various functions of the college to its mission. The first phase of the plan was completed in

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF SHORTER COLLEGE

January 1981, the second one was included in a perpetual planning cycle essential to management by objectives; and the third was executed as, one by one, the various offices were adapted to management by objectives.

Under President Phillips' administration, the college was led to full unconditional accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the Arkansas Council of Independent Colleges and Universities, the National Association of Junior Colleges, and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. This accreditation enabled Shorter College to compete for students who could then transfer easily to four-year institutions. In the years following, many attempts were made at improving the administrative effectiveness of the institution and shaping its programs to meet the needs of students.

In 1984, Bishop H. Hartford Brookins was assigned to the Twelfth (12th) Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He served as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees responsible for the welfare and upkeep of Shorter College. Bishop Brookins' tenure of office in July 1988, with the subsequent assignment of Bishop Henry A. Belin, Jr. who became the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Shorter College.

Dr. Benjamin Williams joined Shorter College as the Vice President for Academic Affairs in the Fall of 1984 under Dr. John Phillips. He was appointed the interim President in July 1987 and was confirmed the 38th President of the college in March 1988. Dr. Williams resigned his leadership in June 1988. Dr. Williams succeeded in accomplishing the following: reinstating the men's basketball team, establishing a new federally funded program (Title III)

designed to strengthen academic programs at the college, setting up a dormitory for the male students on campus (Honors Hall), and making some improvements in the administrative components of the college. Dr. Williams was succeeded by Dr. W. Dean Goldsby who was appointed by the board to the seat of interim President in June 1988 thereby vacating his previous position as Director for Student Services.

In 1998, Shorter College experienced financial difficulties and lost its accreditation. The college continued to exist but was essentially dormant, except for a G.E.D. program until 2008 when Bishop Samuel Green, Sr. Was assigned to serve in the 12th Episcopal District.

A Fresh Start for the College

Under the leadership of Bishop Samuel Green, Sr. , as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Shorter College paid off its tax and other indebtedness to achieve financial stability and applied for accreditation with the Transitional Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS). In 2012, TRACS approved Shorter College for candidacy status (making the college eligible once again to receive federal funds for financial aid and Title III). Bishop Green and the Shorter College Board of Trustees hired Dr. O. Jerome Green, an attorney, as President to lead Shorter College during this period of revival and renewal. Full accreditation was achieved in the Fall of 2013. In the Spring semester of 2014, Shorter College had a student enrollment of 437 students, library holdings were increased, cooperative library usage agreements were implemented, curricular improvements were

made, and the renovation of the S.S. Morris Student Center was completed in July 2014.

In April 2015, two new Associate of Arts Degree Programs were added to the curriculum: Associate of Arts in Entrepreneurial Studies and the Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice.

In August 2016, two more new Associate of Arts Degree Programs were added to the curriculum: Associate of Arts in Christian Leadership and the Associate of Arts in Early Childhood Development. In July 2016, Bishop Michael Mitchell was elected and consecrated as the 134th Bishop of the African Episcopal Church. He was assigned to the 12th Episcopal District and with this Episcopal service, his responsibility includes serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Shorter College. In August 2016, Shorter College was among 70 colleges across the U.S. to be selected for the U.S. Department of Education's Second Chance Pell Pilot Program. On November 30, 2018, Shorter held its first Second Chance Pell commencement ceremony at the Arkansas Department of Correction's Wrightsville Unit, honoring 25 men and women with an associate of arts degree. In August 2020, Shorter College was approved for Distance Learning, Dual and Concurrent enrollment, and a new program major; computer science.



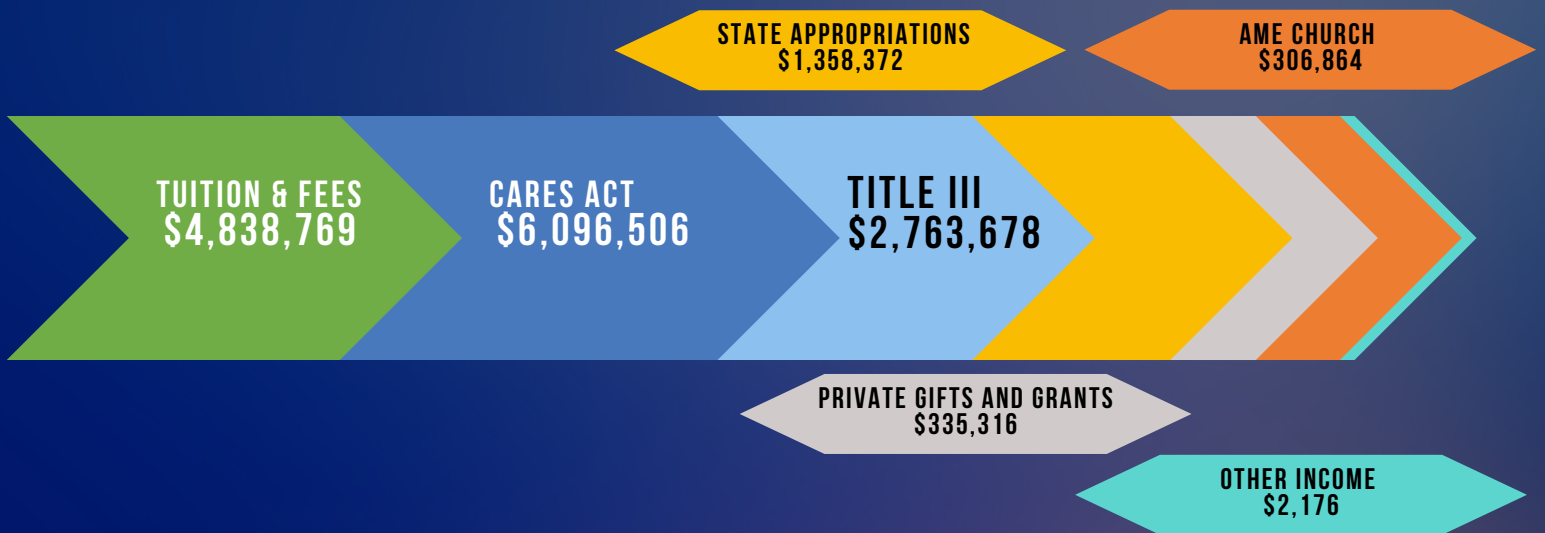
F.C. James Human Resources Building

FINANCIAL REPORT

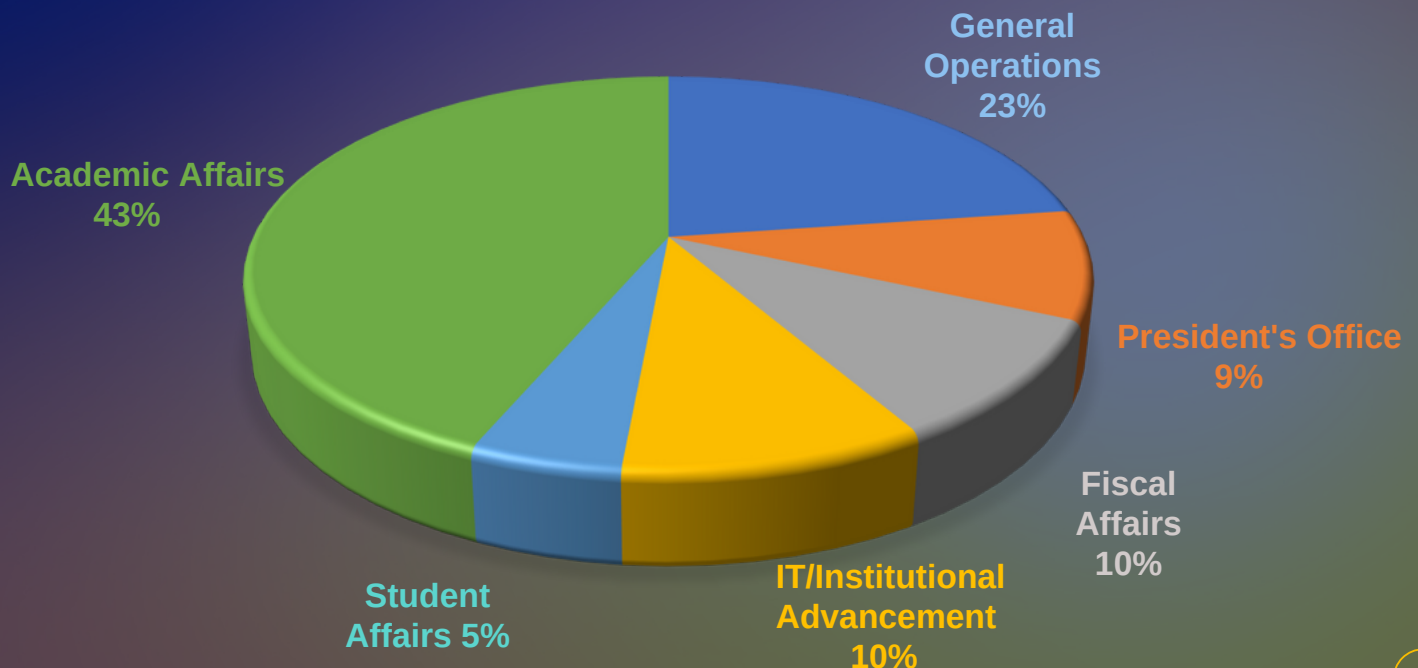
2021-2022

Shorter College Income Allocation

Total Income: \$15,701,681



Shorter College Expenditures

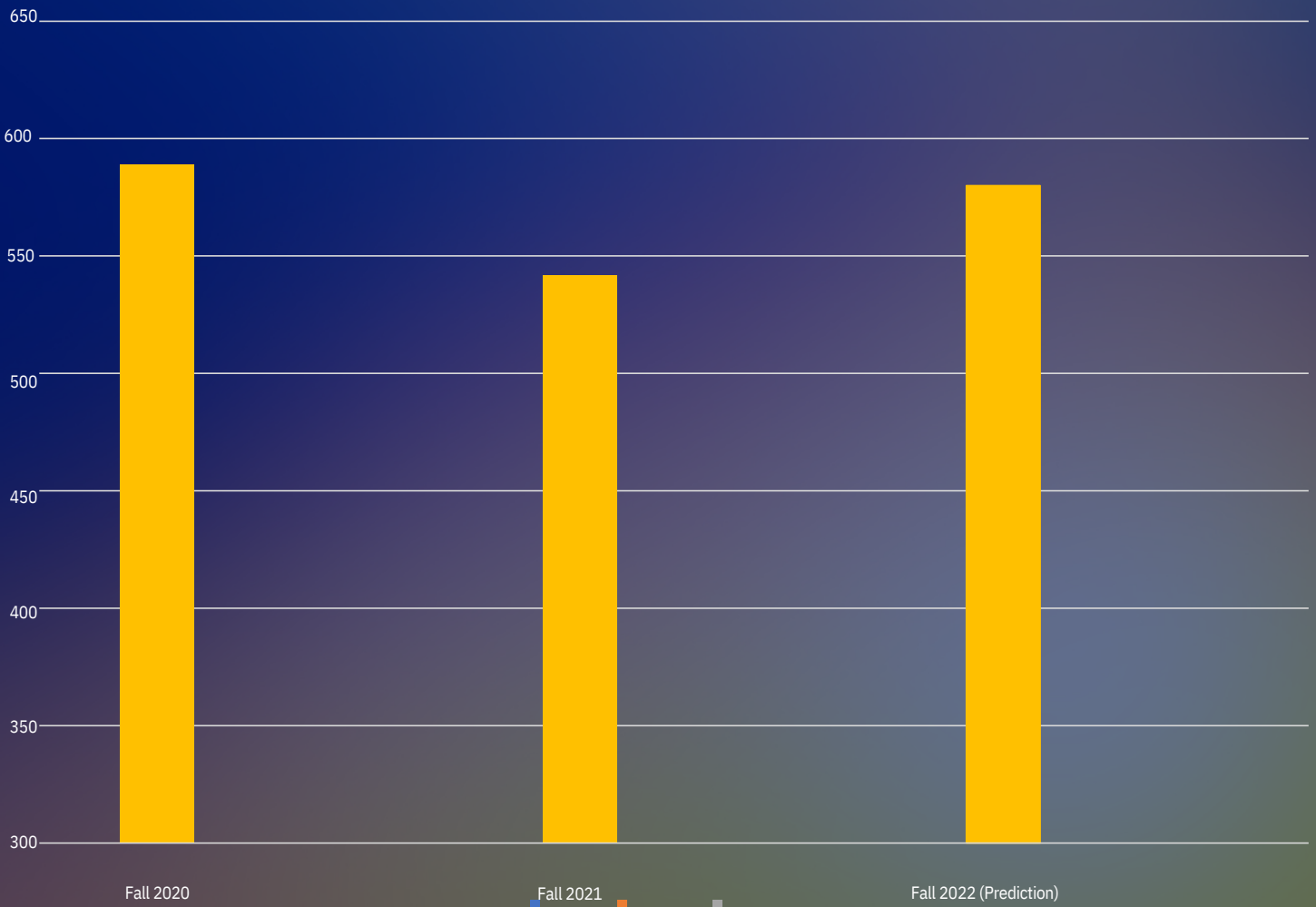


ENROLLMENT TRENDS

2021-2022



Shorter College Official Enrollment (includes Main Campus and Second Chance Pell)



SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

Shorter College has made significant gains in several areas including academic and student achievement, capital improvements, grants, assessment and evaluation.

- Established an Endowment Fund of \$500,000 which is expected to reach \$1 Million by 2024
- Received over \$200,000 from an anonymous private donor, which has already funded \$31,000 in scholarships
- Renovation and Reopening of the Vine Street Health Center
- Entered Phase III of the Shorter College Beautification Project, Sherman Tyree Building has been completed and the renovations to S.S. Morris is in progress
- Acquisition of the Rock Island Train Depot in North Little Rock, AR
- Resumed Intercollegiate Sports with Men's and Women's Basketball
- Acquisition of 55 Passenger Bus
- Revitalization of the Shorter College Choir

Rock Island Train Depot-North Little Rock, AR





YOUR PATH TO

POSSIBLE



(501) 374-6305



shortercollege.edu



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North Little Rock, AR 72114