

KNOXVILLE COLLEGE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Keith E. Lindsey, Ph.D.
Interim President



December 7, 2017

Dear KC Family,

Homecoming 2017 has come to a successful close, but I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for showing your Bulldog Pride during this homecoming weekend as we celebrated 142 years of existence. Thank you for your words of encouragement and concern about Knoxville College, but a deeper thanks is extended to you for always stepping up with pride and love for your Alma Mater. Thank you for making this weekend a success.

I was not sure what to expect because it was my first homecoming as your Interim President. However, I was thoroughly impressed by the events, coupled with observing and admiring all the joy and enthusiasm displayed by the alumni. I truly felt this year's theme, "Stronger Together," was an excellent choice because I truly felt the togetherness, tenacity, and fortitude of the KC family. Your words and gestures of encouragement converted my nervousness into a calming reassurance. I felt encouraged because as I leaving campus Saturday evening, an alumnus told me "we have your back." Those words made me reflect on why I am serving this great college and why we must fight to preserve this institution of higher learning. I can proudly say Knoxville College is rebuilding and I need your assistance to make this a reality.

I am appreciative and thankful to the Homecoming Committee and to every person who volunteered their time and worked behind the scenes. They ensured everyone felt welcomed and made sure every 'I' was dotted and every 'T' was crossed. A special thank you is extended to Shiloh Presbyterian Church for opening their doors to worship together and hear an inspiring message from Rev. Dr. Reese as a climax to the weekend. Thank you to our community partners who assisted us with our activities. The last and biggest thank you goes to the alumni because without you none of this would have been possible.

I truly hope you left this year's homecoming full of hope and renewed energy about the future of Knoxville College. I hope you tell your fellow alumni and friends to make plans to attend next year because it will be another great time to remember. I enjoyed walking the yard and hearing wonderful stories about your time at KC, taking selfies with you, and being able to feel your energy as you shared your memories and experiences with me. These are memories I will cherish forever.

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Now, we are looking forward to celebrating our 143rd year of existence with increased excitement because Knoxville College is striving to once again be a difference maker in our community. We are still seeking to educate minds, to instill values and principles, and to develop another generation of servant leaders. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “If we are to go forward, we must go back and rediscover those precious values that all reality hinges on moral foundations and that all reality has spiritual control.” Knoxville College was founded for a reason and a purpose that transcends our thoughts and ideals. It is for this purpose why we fight for our Alma Mater.

I look forward to seeing you next year in Knoxville or during the year as I travel to visit you across our great nation. Please continue to receive updates on our activities by following the College on our website, twitter, and our official Facebook page and group. We are a large family interwoven like patterns in a beautiful quilt. I will leave you with a quote from Kofi Annan, who said, “Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family.” We are family; we are stronger together, we are Knoxville College.

The light from the school on the hill still shines because of you. I pray for God’s warmest and richest blessings be extended to you and our dear old KC.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith E. Lindsey", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Keith E. Lindsey
Interim President