

Dr. Patrick M. Johns' Record of Community Commitment is Clear

Dr. Patrick M. Johns, is definitely part of the Anoka-Ramsey Community College's history since he has served as its President for 20 years. Minnesota college students chose Johns as "President of the Year" in spring 2008 and the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations named him District Pacesetter of the year in fall 2008. His deliberate efforts to keep tuition low, to provide access to college to

so many in Coon Rapids and surrounding communities who may not otherwise be able to afford it earned him kudos from students and community leaders alike. Anoka-Ramsey had maintained the lowest tuition and fees in Minnesota for seven years straight and enrollment

has steadily increased since 1998 and totaled 36% from fall '98 to

fall '08. Johns also instituted a 50% tuition grant for unemployed Minnesotans with the intent to stimulate the local economy through education.

Johns works closely with local-area legislators and community leaders in support of Anoka-Ramsey Community College and the entire Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. Throughout the school year, he hosts a college advisory committee as well as "Breakfasts with the President" to serve as community forums for discussion of college's strategic plan progress and future priorities. Johns also developed an annual, internal grant process for Anoka-Ramsey students, staff and faculty to propose and develop new ideas called the Strategic Initiative Proposal. Sixty-six proposals have been funded since 1999. Under his leadership, Anoka-Ramsey has added new programs to its portfolio of academic options every year since 2000.

