



President's Report

Dr. Tony Kinkel
President

September, 2008

Enrollment and Access

Grand Opening of Falcon Campus PPCC held a Grand Opening celebration on Saturday, August 9 for our newest campus northeast of Colorado Springs. More than 500 people attended the fun event featuring food, fun, prizes, family activities, and a live DJ. Faculty were on hand to talk about their programs and enrollment services staff were kept busy enrolling new students

The new campus, a collaboration with Falcon District 49, makes a college education possible for the rapidly-growing population in Falcon and the Powers corridor, as well as towns on the eastern plains. By locating a full-service campus in the northeast community, students will save considerable time, money and transportation costs while getting job training or preparing for a higher university degree. Currently, about 22% of PPCC students come from the Falcon area, and more than half of those attend the Centennial Campus on the south end of town.

Pikes Peak Community College and 21st Century Charter School sign first of its kind agreement On July 3, Pikes Peak Community College and the 21st Century Charter School signed a collaborative agreement establishing a first-of-its-kind partnership, allowing the charter school to rent and conduct classes at the PPCC Downtown Studio Campus. 21st Century Charter School is the first Kindergarten-through-high school charter school in the country to have signed such an agreement with a college to begin a middle college program.

Mary Perez, 21st Century Charter School's Director of Middle Colleges and its newest math teacher, says "This organizational structure reflects the shared responsibility of both the high school and PPCC, in an effort to bridge the gap between secondary and postsecondary education. The high school students will benefit greatly from being on a college campus, as they will get a first-hand look at college life and opportunities. They will be able to finish high school requirements and take advantage of a dual credit program, earning college credit for free."

The goal is to help students, many of whom will be the first generation in their families to attend college, to build a solid belief in themselves, to stay in school and succeed, and to integrate directly into college after high school. "We want to take the fear out of higher education," says Perez, "and revitalize clear, consistent communication with our families, to ensure high rates of success and quality education, leading to greater future employment opportunities for our students."

The Charter School's 'competency based' high school and college prep program allows students to master material at a comfortable pace, providing more time for additional coaching when necessary. The college-prep program is designed so that students will be ready to take college classes by the beginning of their junior year of high school. To help make sure they are ready, 21st Century Charter School has already adopted PPCC's developmental curriculum in reading and math.

PPCC President Tony Kinkel is enthusiastic about the new partnership, "I am especially appreciative of the work 'behind the scenes' with the PPCC faculty to facilitate this agreement," says Kinkel. "The work done by Wayne Artis [PPCC professor and liaison to 21st Century Charter School] and Mary Perez to build relationships across the cultural divide between K-12 charter schools and public community colleges is nothing short of astounding. I congratulate everyone involved on this very important step toward a better future for so many students!"

High school students who qualify will take college-level courses through PPCC and receive permanent college credit for those classes at no cost to the student, paid for by the charter school. Students can work toward a 2 or 4 year university degree or chose a career and technical education program in such areas as auto collision technology, CAD, computer information systems, culinary arts, criminal justice, medical careers, fire science technology, welding, multimedia graphic design, radio/television, early childhood education, and others.

The Classical Academy to build new K-12 school on PPCC Campus Pikes Peak Community College and Colorado's largest bricks and mortar charter school, The Classical Academy, are joining forces to create a pioneering new facility that will be used jointly to provide a streamlined education from kindergarten through college. The cooperative partnership will significantly benefit both schools, and provide opportunities for innovative program development and exchanges.

The 81,000 square foot educational facility will be built by The Classical Academy on 9 acres of state-owned land at the PPCC Rampart Range Campus. Ground-breaking for the new facility is set for August or September of this year, with plans to open for Fall of 2009. The project is contingent upon the Classical Academy raising funds for the project through a bond initiative. TCA will lease the land from the state for \$1 per year, and PPCC will in turn lease part of the building from TCA for additional classroom space. The agreement will allow The Classical Academy to build a larger, better school, and receive income to benefit their programs. With the addition of the much-needed classroom space, Pikes Peak Community College will be able to add 375 new classes to its Rampart Range Campus curriculum, at a considerable savings of more than \$80,000 per year over the cost of leasing a commercial facility.

Juniors and seniors at The Classical Academy will be able to enroll in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program at PPCC. Through PSEO, the students take academic classes at PPCC, and earn dual credit for both high school and college. Students can graduate from high school having completed their college general education requirements, and transfer to a university as a junior, while saving a substantial amount on college tuition.

According to Mark Hyatt, president of The Classical Academy, the cooperative agreement will allow the school to expand their support for home school students, and provide a pathway to higher education. "The partnership with PPCC provides a way for home school families to access public higher education on their own terms," says Hyatt. "They will be able to access benefits they are already paying for as taxpayers."

PPCC President Dr. Tony Kinkel says the partnership makes good sense. "The joint project allows the community college to increase classroom capacity without burdening the state taxpayers with increased capital and controlled maintenance costs. At the same time, we're combining resources to allow all students and their parents to access education regardless of whether they come from a public system or not," says Kinkel. "It's the ultimate in being good stewards of the taxpayers' resources blended with the reality of the changing K-12 environment."

The new building will house K-6 classrooms, a Gym/Cafeteria/Commons area, middle and high school classrooms, and ten separate classrooms exclusively for use by PPCC. In addition, in the joint part of the building, TCA will hold classes during the day, and PPCC will have the option to utilize additional space during evenings and weekends.

Women's Resource Agency and PPCC host workshop on going to college On Saturday, July 19, the Women's Resource Agency (WRA) and PPCC hosted a workshop on Postsecondary Education at the WRA office in the Citadel Mall. Gayle Krzemien, PPCC math faculty, is a member of the WRA Board and had been working with Christie Linn, the WRA Director of Adult Services, to coordinate this event. The goal of WRA is to assist women in achieving self-sufficiency. The following PPCC participants helped make this a successful event:

Gayle Krzemien: Coordination of the event

Belenda Cornelius: Enrollment, registration, and financial aid
Kari Pittman: Former student, personal story
Sandy Ho: Former student, personal story
Regina Lewis: Women's Re-entry program
Jenny Jirous: New CIS certificate program

Gayle and Christie hope to make this a regular event, possibly twice a year, to raise the WRA clients' awareness of the potential for coming to college as a means to realize their dreams.

Leadership and Professional Development

Kinkel joins board of Urban League President Tony G. Kinkel has been named to the board of the Urban League of the Pikes Peak Region. The Urban League of the Pikes Peak Region is an affiliate of the National Urban League, and has the mission to promote equal opportunities for African-Americans, other minorities and the disadvantaged through education, economic empowerment, and advocacy. The ULPPR endeavors to be the leading advocate of empowering individuals, families and businesses across the Pikes Peak Region.

Cindy Buckley new dean of Business, Social & Behavioral Sciences Division (BSBS) Cindy Buckley has been appointed as the new dean of the BSBS Division after an internal Search and Screen process which included a public forum. Buckley has been with PPCC for 19 years in community college education, including a stint as Acting Dean.

Buckley holds an AA degree in Early Childhood Education from Moorpark Junior College, a BA degree in Child Development from California State University at Chico and an M.Ed. from Regis University. Since August of 1991, she has served as a member of the faculty at Pikes Peak Community College and as Department Chair in Early Childhood Education. In addition she was the Assistant Dean from 1999 to 2002 and again from 2003 to the present. In the interim she served as the Interim Dean of the division.

Nancy Meiklejohn CACTE Teacher of the Year Nancy Meiklejohn was selected as the Colorado Association for Career and Technical Education (CACTE) Teacher of the Year. She received her award at the CACTE Summer conference in July, and will compete at the regional level for Region V of ACTE.

Meiklejohn has been actively involved in career and technical education for over 27 years. She is presently a Computer Information Systems instructor, teaching courses online and in the classroom including computer applications, Microsoft Project, and Introduction to Computer Information Systems. She has served for the past three years as CTE co-chair of the PPCC Assessment Committee, and she serves on the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. In 2007, she coordinated the design and delivery of a three-part faculty workshop on "Writing for the Real World." She has worked as a Training Project Manager for Workforce Training, in addition to being the Director of the Learning Enterprises Division. Congratulations, Nancy!

Other News...

Bob Laird chosen as Classified Employee of the Year Bob Laird was selected by his peers to be the Classified Employee of the Year for 2008-09. Laird is a Pipe Trades Mechanic III in the Facilities, Maintenance & Operations department. He has worked in the department for the past 30 years, and probably knows PPCC buildings more intimately than anyone else.

Laird came to PPCC after receiving his training as a Stationary Engineer in the old Holly Sugar Building in downtown Colorado Springs. His first job here was also as a Stationary Engineer. Laird says, "I have helped PPCC convert from a coal-fired, low pressure steam plant to a gas-fired, high-pressure, high, hot-water system." He adds, "I also took us from an absorber-type chiller to centrifugals."

Another big change over the years came with the advent of the computer, in more ways than one. On one hand, the computer made his life easier because now he can control the HVAC system for the

campuses by computer instead of having to physically go everywhere and make manual adjustments. On the down side, he notes, "Computers create heat, and that affects room temperature. Our building wasn't designed for hundreds of computers, so it has added extra challenges to cooling the buildings."

Confused? That's why Laird does what he does and we do what we do. He is highly-trained in HVAC systems and knows his trade. His nominator says, "His knowledge is vast in keeping the college at its peak working ability; he understands the function of each HVAC control, and how to make sound judgments on proper adjustments to climate controls." Additionally, the nominator comments on Laird's ability to insure a safe work zone for all under his supervision, his flexibility to implement positive change, and his ability to save the college money. Laird has been finding ways to make a now-outdated HVAC continue to heat and cool the ever-changing buildings of PPCC.

EMS training program in CPR saves a life The EMS Institute at PPCC conducts training for EMS agencies, local industry, and the general public. Every year, the Institute trains staff at Agilent Technologies in First Aid, CPR, and AED. Recently, PPCC instructors were notified that Agilent employees had a woman collapse at their site. Based on the training they received from PPCC they were able to rapidly determine that she was in cardiac arrest, they initiated CPR, and they utilized the on-site AED. They delivered three shocks before the arrival of local EMS. After the third shock the woman regained pulses and began to breathe on her own. EMS faculty say this one life saved due to PPCC training makes everything they do well worth the effort.