

President's Report May 13, 2021

Dr. Matt Gotschall

CCC-GI Campus

- 1) There were great turnouts for the three commencement ceremonies on Friday, May 7. Over 1,025 students were eligible to participate due to earning a diploma or degree within the past year, and almost 450 chose to participate. I'm very pleased with the celebrations, outstanding alumni recognitions and participation.
- 2) As we finished the 2021 spring semester, we had 140 students reported with COVID-19 concerns (testing, symptoms, quarantines, monitoring, etc.) that resulted in additional interactions with CCC student services staff. This compares to over 800 during the 2020 fall semester, so a positive trend downward.
- 3) On May 10, 2021, Central Community College was named the top community college in the state of Nebraska for online learning by [premiumschools.org](https://www.premiumschools.org/). This was an unsolicited award but one that I feel our faculty, support services, faculty support and IT services do deserve!
- 4) I met with the other community college presidents on May 3 for the NCCA trustee meeting in Lincoln as well as another higher education president's meeting hosted this past week by NU President Ted Carter that included other state college and university administrators.
- 5) Due to delays in the U.S. census and the likely need to redraw and approve our community college district lines, we may need to meet in person or via WebEx in December. Once we get specific deadlines and release of information from the Secretary of State's office, we will know more. We cannot look at our boundaries until the state first confirms state legislative districts. District populations should be equal (generally defined as within 10%).
- 6) Skilled and Technical Sciences "signing days" were held in Grand Island, Columbus and Hastings with over 100 new freshmen participating. We received very positive feedback from students, parents and employer sponsors who assisted with the event. Next year plans are to include business and health programs too.
- 7) We received notice May 11 that our American Recovery Plan funds were awarded so we now have access to another \$4,239,649 minimum to be used for student financial aid assistance and \$3,879,179 in institutional funds for coronavirus relief. The total from this third round equals \$8,118,828. The award notes we have until January 15, 2022, to spend the fund, though no cost extensions are available up to one year which would put it to January 2023. Some initial reports said it would be available through September 2023, but know they are encouraging the dollars be spent sooner rather than later to assist in recovery efforts.