

President's Report, June 2024

CCC-Grand Island

Dr. Matt Gotschall

- The Nebraska Postsecondary Education Coordinating Commission held its May meeting at CCC-Columbus. Attendees were very impressed with the new Center for Science and Technology, including the VR/XR lab.
- I continued to meet with potential donors for the possible Holdrege relocation and with owners of the proposed site.
- Doug Pauley and I attended a regional National Science Foundation meeting in Omaha. I also participated in a follow-up meeting with the Peter Kiewit Foundation regarding Nebraska Math Readiness project. Several from CCC attended an update meeting with the Susan T. Buffett Foundation.
- Marcie Kemnitz and I toured the newly remodeled Boarders Inn in Grand Island and saw its new rooms and conference space for holding area events.
- Attended bookstore update and hosted CCC budget, Grand Island Economic Development, and Coursera partner meetings.
- Hosted Grand Island Children's Museum planning meeting.
- Participated in National Incident Management System training along with about 50 other CCC employees from across our area.
- Participated in quarterly UNK/UNMC/CCC facilities update meeting.
- Participated in CCC Foundation budget, personnel and quarterly meetings.
- In July, CCC-Grand Island will host about 150 invited areawide leaders to campus to discuss workforce development initiatives. Invitations sent by Nebraska Economic Development Office with input from the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce, governor's office, and regional planning leadership group.
- I was appointed to a three-year term on AACC's Small and Rural College Commission, beginning July 1, 2024.

Select updates provided by area vice presidents include:

- Over 21 CCC faculty will be participating in an AI workshop in Grand Island.
- About 40 Grand Island Adult Education students took a field trip to Stuhr Museum. For many of them, this was their first visit to a museum. They loved getting the opportunity to learn more about local history.
- The NE Enterprise Fund is working on a collaboration to bring the B.A.I.L. (Banker, Accountant, Insurance, Lawyer) panel program to Grand Island, Kearney and Hastings.
- The CCC-Hastings Entrepreneurship Center director position has been accepted by Scott Snell with a start date of June 10. The CCC-Kearney Entrepreneurship Center director position has been accepted with a start date of July 1. The MOU with Valley County Economic Development and Ord Chamber has been reviewed by CCC. This shared position will bring business coaching to the area. Columbus Entrepreneurship has secured a \$5,000 grand prize for the Big Idea competition.
- A shooting sports coach was hired in Hastings, and new men's basketball and men's golf coaches have been hired in Columbus.
- Some arts, sciences and business faculty writings/presentations include:
 - Dr. Susan McDowell presented "Using Rubrics as a Source of Connection Humor and Learning" at the Teaching Professor Conference.
 - Venus King published her first book, "What I Would Have Told Her."
 - Dr. Linda Wilke-Heil published her first book, "Murder in the Land of Broken Promises."

- Dr. Yunteng He published an article, “Four Steps to Promote Student Success in College Classrooms,” in Faculty Focus.
- Jeff Schultz presented his paper “Teaching How Key Events and Lessons Learned from The Civil Rights Era of the 50s and 60s, Connects with Modern Social Movements: A community college experience,” at the National Social Science and Technology Conference.
- Emily Mach was a featured presenter at both the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology Conference in January and the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Teaching Conference in April.
- First-year nursing students Nichole Phipps and Caroline Siems were awarded the DAISY Award from CHI-St Francis Medical Center due to exemplifying the characteristics of caring and compassion along with exemplary skills when caring for patients. This is the first year that student nurses were eligible to be nominated.
- CCC-Columbus hosted a summer nursing camp in June that included over 12 participants.
- Ninety-four first-year nursing students have been admitted for the three campuses for fall.
- Six students completed a phlebotomy course in Hastings with another course scheduled for Grand Island this summer.
- The occupational therapy assistant program is hosting 30 students this summer for a “Getting it Write” handwriting camp.
- The Kearney and Holdrege centers each had nine students pass their psychomotor EMT testing. Columbus had 22 pass psychomotor testing.
- CCC is partnering with Bryan GI Regional for a second nurse assistant night class with the hospital covering tuition for students.
- Dental hygiene instructor Patty Kirkegaard was elected vice president of the Nebraska Dental Hygienists’ Association.
- Eight students completed a medical technology pathway in May in conjunction with Grand Island Senior High. Eleven initially signed up for 2024-25.
- Eight students completed Advanced Manufacturing Plastic Engineering Technology certificates from CCC-Columbus.
- A successful diesel technology camp was completed with Verizon Technology on the Hastings Campus.
- Multiple CCC faculty and students are attending the National SkillsUSA competition in Atlanta, Ga., this month.
- Kim Ottman, disability services director at CCC-Grand Island, has been elected president of the Western Iowa and Nebraska Association of Higher Education and Disability, WINAHEAD, by her peers. She will serve a four-year term on the executive board. She also will serve as the affiliate representative to the National AHEAD office. AHEAD is the leading professional membership association for individuals committed to equity for persons with disabilities in higher education.
- The Financial Aid Cycle II scholarship application process has closed, with applications doubled from last year. This was anticipated, so some funds were held back to help with the increase.
- The veteran services staff recently attended an Open Hangar Event at the Air National Guard base in Lincoln. CCC, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, UNO Aviation, Wayne State College and Southeast Community College were on site to engage and discuss college options for not only serving airmen, but also for about 250 Junior ROTC students from eastern Nebraska high schools.
- In May 2024, the job board saw significant activity with the addition of 22 new employers and 143 job postings. The CCN online job board currently hosts 2,362 employers, 909 students and 1,619 alumni.
- The Columbus Campus has 138 students confirmed for housing for the fall semester with only 17 spots remaining. Another mailing will be sent to students who applied for admissions and indicated an interest in living on-campus. A wait list will be started if the remaining spots fill.