

President's Report, September 2023

Dr. Matt Gotschall

- Central Community College celebrated our first Registered Apprentice completing both the work and welding course level requirements with our partner Standard Iron in Grand Island. They already have a couple more students in the apprenticeship program and are thankful for our involvement.
- Representatives from the Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation were present in Hastings for a dinner with our current class of freshman and sophomore students. Students have been very active with curriculum and extracurricular leadership events.
- Assisted at the State Fair with interview, college booth and Heartland United Way Scoops. Many CCC employees and students from across the area were heavily involved throughout the State Fair and later at Husker Harvest Days.
- Participated in Math Readiness Grant annual review with researcher and foundation donor.
- Met with Hastings area state senators Halloran and Murman regarding tax levy request and automotive training center and toured the Hamilton Building on the Hastings Campus.
- Attended groundbreaking ceremony with UNK and UNMC promoting involvement in the new \$90 million Rural Health Complex in Kearney. Good to see board members and employees attend along with many donors who have been generous to CCC projects, too.
- Continued involvement in executive boards of Heartland United Way and Postsecondary International Network and attended a meeting of the Greater Nebraska Workforce Board.
- I was asked by the American Association of Community Colleges to co-present a session on our use of data in making student success decisions – specifically Volunteer Framework of Accountability data. This was for AACC's Future Leader's Institute in Denver, Colorado. AACC reimbursed my expenses to participate.
- Attended the CCC Foundation Community Appreciation Event held on the Hastings Campus. Many great demonstrations by program faculty and staff in attendance and well received by the community. Held in cooperation with the Hastings Chamber.
- Attended University of Nebraska-hosted luncheon at Husker Harvest Days.
- Met with four accreditors from the American Commission on Dental Accreditation during their site visit of the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting programs – initial feedback is positive.
- Gave a tour of the Columbus Science and Technology building to a CCC science alum, working with University Extension, who may partner on future industry-based workshops.
- Traveled to Kearney and Lexington centers to meet with faculty and staff.
- Greeted golfers at the annual CCC Foundation Golf Tournament and was pleased to hear positive feedback from our student speaker who attended the annual NPPD golf tournament held as a fundraiser for five community colleges in their region.
- Attended the Nebraska Recycling Conference where CCC was given an award for our sustainability and recycling efforts.
- Participated in feasibility interview and feedback from Foundation regarding Auto project.
- Attended Hall County Joint Public Budget Hearing.
- Updates from vice presidents across the area include:
 - Two ADN (nursing) students have yet to test, but so far pass rates are 93% for NCLEX-RN and 100 for NCLEX-PN from last year's graduates.
 - Grand Island High School and CCC started their new partnership in offering Medical Lab Tech programming for seven early colleges students. Students attend CCC labs on Tuesday or Wednesdays and rest is completed at their high school and online.

- In September Occupational Therapy Assistant students will be working an elementary school in Hastings, helping build a sensory wall.
- Six students achieved National Registry Certification in Paramedicine with an additional two retesting this month. Twelve students have entered second year of coursework with eighteen beginning this fall.
- Exploring Early Childhood Education apprenticeship offerings for paraeducators as part of our federal apprenticeship grant.
- The Growing Pathways to Stem (Project GPS) grant we received from the National Science Foundation has ended after six years with 46 students benefiting from those scholarships, transfer scholarship support and student research projects.
- Since July 2023, we have had four GED graduates with strong numbers in multiple classes across our region.
- Tryouts were completed for the collegewide Esports team with twenty now accepted on to a team, including our first female team member. Further breakdowns by team and site:
 - i. 9 student athletes on Call of Duty team
 - ii. 6 student athletes on Rocket League team
 - iii. 5 student athletes on League of Legends team
 - iv. 9 student athletes in Hastings, 7 in Columbus, 3 in Grand Island and 1 in Kearney.
- Central Community College was the first community college in the state to sign with Opendorse – a Nebraska-based, national company to assist student athletes with name, image and likeness agreements. More to share at the October Board meeting.
- Counseling and prevention counselor Mallory Swantek joined the Nebraska Counseling Association Board as the co-chair for Region 4/5. This area covers the communities surrounding our Grand Island, Hastings, and Holdrege locations. Mallory will serve for two years in this role. Director Luz Colon-Rodriguez joined the Nebraska Collegiate Prevention Alliance (NECPA) Advisory Board in August. NECPA works collaboratively to develop strategies for reducing and preventing high-risk drinking and substance use among Nebraska college students. On September 29, Central Community College will host the Nebraska Counseling Association Fall Conference on Rural Mental Health.
- Over \$600,000 was received from Nebraska Economic Development for CCC's share of the Nebraska Legislative allocation for Nebraska Career Scholarships for awards up to \$15,000 over three years for students going into high demand careers.
- Many welcome back activities, Central Kickoff and student engagement events occurred on each of the campuses since the start of school with college-wide enrollment showing an increase from fall 2022.
- The Academic Success Center in Columbus has a total of 11 tutors and supplemental instruction leaders and two writing coaches, including five new student tutors hired since last fall. Nursing supplemental instruction sessions are also available to provide support.
- The VP and Retention Team is meeting monthly to continue the development and implementation of Success Scoring Plans – as well as the academic recovery interventions being planned for High-Risk Students and/or Academic Probation students. The Academic Recovery Taskforce has been meeting to finalize recommendations for changes to our Academic Probation processes at CCC.
- Several positive projects will be shared from the Veterans Resource Center as part of this month's Student Success section of the Board meeting.
- The Third Annual Winter Commencement will be held on Friday, December 15, at the Columbus Campus at 2 p.m.