

President's Report, October 19, 2023

Dr. Matt Gotschall

Columbus Campus

- Attended several meetings this past month with InternNE (powered by Aksarben) representatives as they branch out to encourage more internships and apprenticeships with businesses across the state. This is part of \$20 million from the state to expand work-based internships across Nebraska.
- Attended a successful Early College coordinator meeting in Hastings where our area guidance counselors are brought in for updates and information about CCC. High schools from across our service area were in attendance.
- The exit meeting of the financial audit was positive with a full report to be presented to the CCC Board at the November meeting.
- Participated in the NCCA Board meeting regarding legislative priorities for next year. Rita Skiles, Dan Quick and Diane Keller were also in attendance. Rita participated in executive committee meetings the rest of the day as NCCA's vice president.
- Participated in annual report meeting at the Suzanne & Walter Scott Jr. Foundation in Omaha where Brett Wells, Alison Feeney, Chris Waddle and I shared successes and opportunities of the first 10 months of the Scott Scholars program at CCC-Hastings.
- Participated in State Chamber of Commerce legislative policy committees for Economic Development and Manufacturing. Served as secretary of the Nebraska Manufacturing Advisory Council meeting held at Behlen Mfg. in Columbus.
- Met with Kate Bolz, administrator for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Nebraska office, regarding possible grants to support our expansion of services to additional rural communities within our service area.
- Followed up with MOU discussions with the new Schnase 1906 District in Hastings to promote more entrepreneurship programming and support for small businesses.
- Participated in strategic planning meeting for the Heartland United Way, serving Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick counties.
- Attended the Nebraska Chamber's Manufacturing Summit for updates on manufacturing in Nebraska and where the "Coolest Thing Made in Nebraska" was announced – Rocket Mobility (all terrain wheelchair) made in Columbus.
- Participated as treasurer of the Postsecondary International Network (PIN) executive committee meeting regarding executive director retirement and upcoming summit in 2024.

Updates provided by area vice presidents include:

- Representatives for NTI (Nebraska Transfer Initiative) course revisions have been selected. Faculty will meet in January in Grand Island to update courses.
- A new paraeducator certificate is being proposed and will be presented at the October Ed Services meeting. This certificate will qualify individuals to work as a Title I, SPED, or Early Childhood para in Nebraska School Districts meeting specific assessment/mastery requirements for the state as laid out in Rule 11, ESSA, and Title I guidance. With the completion of the certificate, individuals will be qualified for higher paying para positions, and it enables individuals to work with special populations.
- Area Entrepreneurship events include:
 - Monday, November 6 – Big Idea Grand Island at Kinkaider Brewing Company. Idea submission closes October 19 at bigideagi.com.

- Tuesday, November 7th – Big Idea Hastings at The Lark. Idea submission closes October 16 at bigideahastings.com.
- Thursday, November 9th – Big Idea Columbus at the Columbus Innovation Center. Idea submission closes October 16th at cccneb.edu/bigideacolumbus.
- CCC-Hastings hosted 75 members of the Nebraska Counseling Association for its fall conference.
- CCC-Columbus commemorated Suicide Awareness Month with a variety of activities that included the first Raider Awareness Walk hosted by the Athletics Office on October 3 and culminated with participation in the Columbus Out of Darkness walk on October 7.
- TRIO students visited a pumpkin patch as one of their career trips. They observed behind-the-scenes operation of a self-owned business as well as some agricultural education elements. Several of the students had never been to a pumpkin patch or farm before.
- Barry Horner was recently presented with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award. An employee serving in the National Guard or Reserve or the spouse of a Guard or Reserve member may nominate individual supervisors and bosses for support provided directly to the nominating service member and his or her family. The Patriot Award reflects the efforts made to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.
- The Columbus admissions office will be hosted the Latino Youth Leadership Summit on October 17 with around 600 students attending.
- Kazia Marques, Grand Island director of student engagement, recently spoke at the Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability (UMACS) Conference that was held at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. She joined Ben Newton to speak about student engagement related to Earth Month activities on all three campuses and at the Kearney Center as well as how to engage students through service and STEAM projects.
- Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead will take place on the Grand Island Campus on November 4 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. In 2022, over 500 people attended this cultural event which is organized by the Grand Island Campus Multicultural Resource Center. Faculty, staff, students and community members create altars for display at the event. Other activities include traditional Aztec/Mexican dances, face painting, crafts and a community mural project.
- The Kearney Center recently held a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration event. Over 100 Kearney Center students attended the event.
- Central Visit Days have started and are in full swing. The Hastings Campus admissions office hosted 90 sophomores from Grand Island Northwest High School for a tour of the Hastings Campus.
- The Early College and admissions offices hosted the Fall Coordinators Meeting on the Hastings Campus. High School representatives (counselors, principals, and staff) learned about updates at CCC and toured programs.
- CCC staff met with representatives from the University of Nebraska at Kearney to review the status of our housing partnership. Both UNK and CCC are pleased with the shared partnership, and we had our highest number of applications (15) thus far for the fall semester.
- CCC has hired two full-time nursing directors to assist faculty and the dean in curriculum and simulation lab updates and coordination. This is especially helpful in preparation for upcoming ACEAN accreditation visits this spring with on-going responsibilities after that time. One is located in Columbus and the other in Kearney.
- Informal meetings by the nursing dean with first-year students are scheduled for October 4 (Columbus), October 18 (Kearney) and October 25 (Grand Island). These meetings are

scheduled to touch base with new students to answer questions, discuss concerns and offer solutions for problems.

- The Health Expo was held on September 20 in Grand Island with 94 students attending from 12 different area schools to learn more about our health science programs, nursing, nursing and medication assistants. This hands-on event to learn about occupations and the new simulation lab was well received.
- Five Medical Lab Technician students will graduate in December. These are the first students that CCC was able to “accelerate” through the program by offering all courses in spring and fall rather than one semester or the other.
- **The Third Annual Winter Commencement will be held on Friday, December 15, at the Columbus Campus at 2 p.m.**