

President's Report October 22, 2020

Dr. Matt Gotschall

CCC-Columbus

- 1) The federal stimulus CARES bill included funds for the U.S. Department of Education to send to all colleges and universities to assist students and the institutions with COVID-related expenses. We were approved for the full amount of \$1,890,454, with a minimum of 50 percent designated for direct aid to students impacted by coronavirus-related expenses. As of October 7, CCC ended up awarding \$1,201,900 directly to students from the CARES Act and an additional \$47,150 in Verizon Grant funds to help students not covered by the CARES funds. The remaining institutional funds should be expended by the end of October 2020.
- 2) Nebraska Workforce Retraining Initiative funds available to all Nebraska community college students are continuing to be awarded through October 31, for short-term certifications needed currently by area employers. Interest in the scholarships have been less than anticipated but are still benefiting several hundred students in the CCC service area.
- 3) Extended Learning Services staff implemented the new tuition options for Early College students to begin Fall 2020. With well over 70 partner high schools, there was quite a bit of coordination and communication throughout the area. Overall, the reduced tuition option to students was well received by schools and students. As a reminder, all high school adjuncts meet the same credentialing requirements and implement CCC curriculum. Despite the challenges of getting into schools to register students due to COVID-19 restrictions, Early College staff has been successful enrolling 2,923 duplicate headcount students and 291 FTE. This compares to 2,920 and 292 FTE from a similar time last year. Grand Island Public Schools did move approximately 280 students and 28 FTE this semester of general education courses to Wayne State College, but expanded offerings in criminal justice and business with CCC.
- 4) I participated in several community, college relations or state functions this past month including: Grand Island Chamber of Commerce annual meeting, College Park and UNK ribbon cutting ceremony, CHI and Grand Island Public Schools Medical Academy campaign announcement and JBS Check presentation ceremonies, Nebraska Wesleyan University tour of new science building and theater remodel, 30-question interview with Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce, Holdrege Center visit, Virtual ACCT Leadership Congress, and Greater Nebraska Workforce Investment Board Committee meetings. Dr. Candace Walton and I gave a tour of the Grand Island Campus to UNK academic affairs leaders and Grand Island Northwest Superintendent Jeff Edwards.
- 5) I testified to the Nebraska Appropriations Committee along with presidents from the University of Nebraska, state colleges, Southeast Community College and Nebraska Postsecondary Coordinating Commission on LB389, an interim study of how higher education is preparing students for H3 careers in Nebraska and the impact of COVID on workforce development.

- 6) I participated in a monthly conference call with Gov. Ricketts and other representatives from Nebraska higher education institutions and in a U.S. Department of Education-sponsored COVID update meeting.
- 7) Central Community College will be hosting the State Chamber of Commerce Fall Forum and Manufacturing Roundtable on the Grand Island Campus with watch locations at our campuses/centers in Columbus, Hastings, Holdrege, Kearney, Lexington and Ord.
- 8) Congratulations to Tom and Sue Pirnie for a well-deserved recognition as the Distinguished Service Award recipients of the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce.
- 9) Congratulations and thanks to Diane Keller for beginning her term as president of the Nebraska Community College Association Board of Trustees. Its first meeting was held in October.
- 10) Publicity started on the nearly \$1.3 million Advanced Technological Education Program funded by a National Science Foundation grant to South Central College (SCC) of Minnesota in partnership with CCC. This phase will bring mechatronics education to rural high school students through partnerships with area school districts and businesses. SCC has campuses in Faribault and North Mankato providing mechatronics education to a 12-county area of south central Minnesota with a population of about 395,000. Their rural service area compares to CCC's 25 counties and approximate 300,000 population.
- 11) At least five CCC students will participate in the virtual Student Leadership Track of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) in October. CCC is the only Nebraska community college to belong to this organization of which UNK is also an associate member.
- 12) The Veterans Resource Centers have Veterans Day activities planned for each campus and the Kearney Center, including local fire departments and community members.
- 13) Dr. Jerry Wallace set a goal of 1,300 volunteer hours for the 2020-21 school year for those on the Hastings campus. Hours are just shy of 450 as of October 2020.
- 14) Planned or completed guest speakers for criminal justice classes this semester include Officers Brad Books and Kayla Larkins, Capt. Jim During, Forensic Tech Dan Worrington, and Officer Macello from the Grand Island Police Department and Lt. Thompson from the Kearney Police Department.
- 15) Representatives from Columbus Hydraulics visited the Columbus Campus August 19 to discuss their needs and the importance of partnering with CCC to develop a solid workforce. Faculty and programs visited included advanced manufacturing design technology, mechatronics, quality technology, and welding. An outcome from this meeting has been Columbus Hydraulics is now willing to adjust work schedules and pay for the general manufacturing certificate training for selected employees.
- 16) The new food truck of CCC's HMRM program has a name: "Degrees – Central's Cruising Cuisine."
- 17) Congratulations to Dr. Kathy Fuchser and Karin Rieger on their successful co-chairing of the first-ever virtual Taste of Columbus, the annual fundraiser of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce and one nonprofit (CCC this year). The event was a success with over \$50,000 raised!