

President's Report, March 2022

Dr. Matt Gotschall

CCC-Grand Island

- 1) Much of March continues to be spent with state legislative issues, bills and funding proposals due to a wide range of bills introduced to date or in development. I have attended additional hearings and weekly NCCA meetings to discuss impacts or developments.
- 2) I facilitated a Hastings Campus visit from the Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation, which is considering sponsoring students in select high skill, demand and wage careers.
- 3) March wraps my year as president of the Heartland United Way Board so I'm involved with multiple meetings prior to the annual meeting and selection of funding recipients for 2022-23 from its four-county region. I will continue to serve on the executive board as past chair and serve three more years on the board.
- 4) I've received a reappointment letter as a Higher Learning Commission peer reviewer through 2026.
- 5) Participated in a UNL study on rural community development strategies.
- 6) I participated in White House and U.S. Department of Education briefings regarding pandemic relief funds and other national initiatives that included infrastructure and rural service area funding.
- 7) Nine CCC employees received the League Excellence Award from the League of Innovation in Community Colleges for their work on innovative program, projects or grants that have brought positive recognition to CCC on a state or national level. They were Keith Vincik, Sherry Desel, Michael David, Marni Danhauer, Ronnie O'Brien, Ben Newton, Randell Manning, Diana Watson and Jerry Muller.
- 8) I coordinated a meeting with JBS regarding a proposed leadership/management development program they would like to implement at CCC.
- 9) I participated in the national nursing accreditation visit by ACEN in early March. The final report will not be returned to CCC until about September 2022.
- 10) I sent board information emails along with my contact information to non-incumbent CCC board candidates Dan Quick and Wayne Nestor.
- 11) 1,022 scholarship applications were received this spring, up from 913 last year.
- 12) Dr. Callie Watson was recognized and honored as the 2022 Occupational Therapy Practitioner of the Year by the Nebraska Occupational Therapy Association at their conference in February.
- 13) The nursing program is hosting their annual job fair today (March 17) at College Park. Employers will be present in person in the morning, and afternoon sessions will include graduation information, preparation for nursing boards, student pictures and a luncheon.
- 14) Dental Hygiene students will be taking their national boards in early March in Lincoln.
- 15) Luz Colin-Rodriguez, director of counseling and prevention education, completed the annual Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program notification. It can be found at <https://www.cccneb.edu/globalassets/documents/student-life/policies-and-procedures/daapp.pdf>.
- 16) We received news CCC has again achieved the 2022-23 Military Friendly award for being in the Top Ten of small community colleges and at the highest status level of

“gold.” Out of the 125 small colleges ranked, there were 12 Bronze, 78 Silver [(ncluded Northeast and Western Nebraska community colleges), 25 Gold and the top 10. Overall, CCC was ninth out of 125! This is one of two awards the VMRC aggressively strives to achieve each year to prove our commitment to veterans, service members and their families.

- 17) Kearney Center staff hosted 401 Kearney ninth graders for tours in February.
- 18) The Career Opportunity Fair on the Columbus Campus was held on March 9 and brought over 320 students from 15 local schools to the Columbus Campus.
- 19) ACTIONS Day was held on March 16 at the Hastings Campus. A total of 567 students from over a dozen area high schools registered for the competition.
- 20) Welding students from all three campuses, instructors and Associate Dean Alison Feeney attended a welding competition at North Central Technical College in Beloit, KS, on March 2.
- 21) Hastings Public Schools in cooperation with CCC held a Manufacturing Madness event to promote manufacturing careers on March 15.
- 22) Signing days for students making commitments to CCC in skilled and technical sciences, business or health programs will be held April 20 at the Columbus Campus, April 21 at the Kearney Center, April 22 at the Grand Island Campus and April 27 at the Hastings Campus.
- 23) Electrical technology (ELTR) classes are being offered three nights a week at the Kearney Center for students to complete an ELTR certificate over two semesters.
- 24) Agriculture instructors and college staff collectively hosted thousands of students on all three campuses for District FFA contests in March.
- 25) Columbus entrepreneurship staff members are working with the Chamber of Commerce and University of Nebraska Extension to host a Connecting Entrepreneurship Communities event in Columbus in late April.
- 26) Dr. Jerry Wallace and the career services department will host manufacturing and welding employers from 10 a.m. to noon on April 12 in the Hamilton Building on the Hastings Campus. Students will bring their resumes and the employers will conduct interviews.