

President's Report
CCC-Grand Island, September 25, 2025
Dr. Matt Gotschall

- I have participated in several follow-up meetings regarding the Central Region: Six Regions, One Nebraska initiative focusing on three priority areas of Workforce/Entrepreneurship, Housing and Child Care. As of mid-September, the Central Child Care Champions have created 16 new licensed in-home child care businesses (most were operating unlicensed or staying at home with their own kids) and 174 NEW licensed child care spots in the Central Region since January along with \$40,000 in stipends infused into those new businesses. An agreement between CCC and Edgerton Explorit Center was recommended to the board today to advance the Workforce Initiative to get more trades career exposure into high schools statewide.
- Last week, Kelly Christensen, Beth Klitz and I attended the annual Postsecondary International Network on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. I presented on CCC initiatives and Kelly presented on the iMec program. One college has followed up regarding more information on iMec and much was learned about international education opportunities and challenges, artificial intelligence for educators, higher education funding, applied research, organizational culture, and involving indigenous populations and traditions in modern facilities and educational programming.
- Participated in a success kick-off event for the Scott Scholars program welcoming over 55 new and returning students to the program.
- Participated in the Foundation's event honoring donors of CCC's shotgun sports, met students and donors. Also participated in Foundation strategic planning events.
- Participated in the All-College Faculty Senate welcome and spent time at each of the campuses and centers (with the exception of Ord) during the first two weeks of classes.
- I was interviewed during the Nebraska State Fair and my wife and I were in charge of the CCC booth during afternoon of Memorial Day. Very happy with the dozens of CCC employees who assisted at both the State Fair and Husker Harvest to promote the college and reconnect with alumni and our community stakeholders.
- Met with website designers and reviewed initial plans and recommendations for our upgrades.
- Listened in on the architect interviews for the CCC-Grand Island housing project and reviewed final budget documents prior to hearing notices and board meeting.
- Presented at a Grow GI meeting regarding our workforce initiative of 6 Regions and was asked to speak to approximately 100 4-H extension educators during an annual training about adapting to change and remaining flexible in ever-changing times.
- Met with new UNK Chancellor Schnoor, gave him a tour of the UNK Center and discussed continued and new partnership opportunities. Reached out to UNL contacts about proposed elimination of the education administration department and impact on community college leadership programming they have and are doing in the state and region in addition to K-12 administration offerings.
- CCC was notified of a nearly \$1 million National Science Foundation grant to expand our iMec training format to adult education students over the next few years.

Reports from area vice presidents include:

- Business and education programs are both meeting with UNL and UNK on revised 2+2 pathways.
- Live Video classes in early childhood were launched this fall with students attending in Lexington, Kearney, Red Cloud and Ord.

- Libby, ebooks and audio books have been very popular with checkouts far exceeding expectations. Librarians will be looking at the best way to meet patron demand and expand the digital collection.
- Student checkout computer demand exceeded supply, so waitlists and additional resources were deployed to seek to meet need while balancing need of students having own devices.
- A new ESL class was started in Cozad with nine students enrolled.
- Try outs for e-sports have been completed with 19 students selected to compete in four titles. Fall competition begins next week.
- Volleyball and men's soccer have both been ranked in the top 25 nationally so far this fall with strong female soccer performance as well. Fall golf and shotgun sports have started with softball and basketball teams beginning fall workouts. In total 144 student athletes including 33 international students representing 14 countries.
- CCC athletics partnered with wellness committees, student activities, counseling and prevention, and the Veterans and Military Resource Center across the college to stand together and break the stigma around suicide and mental health. The Raider Awareness Walk included walkers from across the college area.
- The Grand Island entrepreneurship center is busy with several new childcare providers seeking assistance with their new in-home businesses. 1 Million Cups is still going strong with an average of 25 attendees per week. Ten small trade business are being sought to upscale their business with six weeks of classes starting Oct. 2 in Grand Island
- Hastings entrepreneurship is working with five new business founders and with the community and workforce education department for workshops on AI.
- Kearney entrepreneurship already has 15 submissions for Big Idea presentations.
- OTHA instructor Libby Theoharis and OTHA program director Callie Bridges will be presenting to an OT doctoral program in September via WebEx. The program (University of Findlay) is a private institution in Ohio, which offers both a doctor of occupational therapy and a master of occupational therapy degree. This guest invitation came after they presented at a national conference earlier this year.
- UNMC's Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program has reached out to the health sciences division offering and seeking volunteer opportunities for CCC students who might consider participating as a Standardized Patient (SP) to gain experience in the sonography lab. There are one to two students to volunteer for each of the sonography labs (three labs per week for approximately two to three hours).
- Work is ongoing with Mary Lanning to review and update the partnership agreement for the RAD (radiologic technology) program.
- The program directors from the five accredited HIM programs in Nebraska met on Aug. 26 for the Nebraska Consortium. The Nebraska Health Information Management Association (NHIMA) Board of Directors will meet with CCC students in all of our programs on Sept. 24 via Zoom. It is a chance to network with our board and share their experiences with our students.
- Semester has had a successful start for nursing. There is a larger student population specifically in the second-year cohort. That cohort is sitting with 93 second-year students and 81 first-year students.
- Fall nursing rotations have been set up with several critical access hospitals including ones at Superior, Cozad and Lexington.
- CCC has been approached about colocation of a community partner to the Red Cloud location. Agreement is being reviewed.
- CCC hosted a Fall Early College Coordinators meeting on Sept. 24 on the Columbus Campus with over 40 counselors/administrators attending.
- National Electrical Code Review workshops will be held on all three campuses and in Kearney. A fall industrial maintenance series will also be held in Hastings, Columbus and Kearney.