



President's Report
Dr. Tony Kinkel
President

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Student Access Goal: All Coloradans shall have access to comprehensive community college educational programs.

In an effort to ease the application process, PPCC is partnering with CodeBaby – a leader in digital character technology located in Colorado Springs – on a pilot to develop an avatar that will assist prospective students with applying to the college. The avatar, code-named “Addy” will be available on all pages of the Application for Admission to help students with questions they may have about the form.

As PPCC enrollment continues to grow, the need for additional classroom space becomes more and more apparent. Remodeling two little used classrooms on Centennial Campus, Rooms B203 and 204, is one of the many projects that will help alleviate classroom deficiencies throughout our college. The 4,770 square foot area previously consisted of three oversized classrooms, two very small offices and a lot of inefficiently used space. The area is now much more functional; providing four properly sized classrooms, five faculty offices and three much needed storage rooms. In addition, the area houses a student gathering area for the Culinary Arts program that will house lockers for students to store their belongings and classroom materials in while in class. This project also addresses concerns that were noted in recent audits of the Culinary Arts program and positions PPCC to move forward with the expansion of the Culinary Arts kitchen and baking area to accommodate the large enrollment growth in that program. The aggressive remodel was completed on a condensed timeline through collaborative efforts with in-house staff and contractors. Long hours, team work and pure determination to get this area done and ready for fall classes has paid off.

PPCC's Office of Strategy Management:

- Conducted management analysis and analytical studies to improve and expand course offerings in on-line, hybrid program, and class options.
- Conducted management analysis, analytical studies, and suggested strategies to increase total enrollment and enrollment from growing population groups emerging from demographic trends
- Met formal state and federal requirements for fiscal, compliance, and accreditation reporting that serves as the basis for planning and policy development

The Distance Education office is working with department chairs to create a faculty development plan that will include nationwide recruitment strategies so that we can meet increasing demands for online classes. It will also meet with representatives from each CTE program to determine how online and hybrid courses and other online materials can integrate into those programs to enhance accessibility and program effectiveness and increase enrollments

Through the partnerships established by the PPCC Economic & Workforce Development Division with on-line training providers, we are continuing to grow the offerings available to our clients. We now offer more than 500 on-line courses covering a wide array of professional, personal development, and “fun” topics. The latest addition is 12 courses that address the growing interest in the “greening” of businesses.

PPCC's Student Services Division:

- Financial Aid staff met with students and/or families one-on-one to educate them on what is available with state & federal grants and loans; processed thousands of financial aid applications (total 19,824 for the last 7 months).

- Enrollment Services: fall call center staff assisted thousands of students with all aspects of enrollment services; hired temporary staff to assist students in navigating PPCC website for online registration and to check financial aid status.
- Child Development Center: The Rampart Range Campus Child Development Center received four out of four stars, which is the highest rating possible from Qualistar Early Learning as part of state quality enhancement school readiness project. The Centennial Campus CDC received the same rating in 2007.
- Career Planning & Advising Centers; August 3 through August 24, 2009, CP&A Centers signed in 3945 students for career counseling and academic advising services, a 13% increase over the same period last year; in order to support increased enrollment demand, CP&A partnered with the Testing Center to offer Saturday hours before the last week of regular registration; funded 291 hours for faculty advisors to assist students during semester break.
- OASIS (Student Disability Services Office) hired 1.5 new staff to accommodate growing student demand for disability services: converted an 0.5 Disability Specialist position to 1.0 (which was filled by a new staff member) & hired a new position: Accommodative Testing Specialist; installed lockers to improve accommodative testing processes/integrity/environment; serving a record number of Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HOH) students, 21 with Interpreting and technology services; in just 2nd week of the semester OASIS received 182 alternate format requests for textbooks; installed new Assistive Technology hardware/software in CAC Lab and accommodative testing rooms in OASIS; obtained alternate formats (Braille, large print, and audio CD) for new Accuplacer test and upgraded software for Braille production; obtained software for the future creation of Daisy (audio) formatted alternate format e-text; installed accommodative furniture on 3 campuses & ordered table risers where needed and upgraded filing system for registered students
- Student Crisis counseling staff conducted a workshop for faculty and staff entitled *From Soldier to Scholar*, during Professional Development Week.

Student Success Goal: The demands of Colorado businesses and communities shall be met through the development of a high skilled work force.

The PPCC Division of Economic and Workforce Development continues efforts that address this area including those relationships with the Pikes Peak Workforce Center (PPWFC), Pueblo Community College (PCC), and the Colorado Association for Manufacturing and Technology. Together we are conducting an ongoing talent development needs analysis to identify the skills needed in the workplace across all industries. In particular, we are heavily involved in the Manufacturing Taskforce of Colorado Springs as it relates to training grants that were attained by the PPWFC and PCC.

Enrollment Services staff engaged in a number of initiatives to develop and offer courses in Continuing Education for students using partnerships developed with Workforce Center to include: AVOTEC Courses for military and their dependents, Human Resource training courses, and courses to train gaming industry table operators. We are also increasing our emphasis on recruiting home school students.

Learning Assistance Center staff are providing additional tutoring services to Perkins funds eligible students to support Career and Technical education (CTE).

Office of Strategy Management Activities:

- Helped to develop and initiate pilot projects and grant proposals to support initiatives for partnerships with economic development organizations and emerging industry sectors (e.g. National Science Foundation GIS grant, Code Baby, and Aerospace).
- Built new computer applications to support analytical studies and support state and federal policies that promote postsecondary education enrollment and completion.
- Created new program authorization and served as intake for student referrals from the Pikes Peak Workforce Development Center to expand Career and Technical education (CTE) programs into areas of emerging industries.

The Communications, Humanities and Technical Studies division has begun an offering of a certificate program within Facilities Maintenance Technology in Direct Digital Controls. These controls are very relevant to emerging energy fields. Additional Energy Certificates are under development within the Electronics, Architecture and Facilities Maintenance programs.

Student Success Goal: Colorado students shall have seamless opportunities to transition from high school into college and from two-year institutions into four-year institutions.

The Mathematics and Languages Division is running a program seeking improvement in developmental math. Second Chance is a Continuing Education course that runs for three weeks between semesters. This class is **not** funded. Students who have previously failed Math 030 – 099 are eligible to take this class. Students attend class every single week day, and use a computer program to work on their math skills. At the end of the course, they retake the math placement test. So far, we have seen a 66% success rate. We think this is wonderful, considering most students in the program have not been successful in the past.

PPCC's Student Services Division:

- The Learning Assistance Center continues to provide Placement test preparation workshops to assist students in reviewing fundamental math, reading, and English concepts to allow for more accurate ACCUPLACER scoring and college success workshops to develop successful student behaviors, such as study skills, memory techniques, test anxiety, time management, stress management, and note taking.
- The Enrollment Services Office supports collaborative agreements with private and charter K-12 schools, coupled with our investment in second chance math courses to assist students coming from high school.
- The Trio/Student Support Services (SSS) program now shares staff with the Multicultural Retention Program to provide students more resources and linked services. Multicultural students now have direct access to SSS Transfer Coordinator to discuss academic goals, transfer plans and scholarship searches; SSS program provides students with the *Learning and Study Strategies Inventory* each semester (LASSI); measures student's will, academic skills and motivation. SSS Advisors then recommend strategies for test anxiety, motivation, concentration, study skills and scheduling. Students can now measure their study skills gains and areas of improvement

Office of Strategy Management Activities:

- Improved information system protocols and internal PPCC processes to track concurrent student enrollment and success.
- Conducted management analysis and analytical studies to assess, improve, and create new strategies for remediation.

Student Success Goal: Colorado students shall have the opportunity to succeed through high quality, cutting-edge instruction and educational services.

The Division of HENPS (Health, Environmental, Natural and Physical Sciences) is working with PPWC (Pikes Peak Workforce Center) on a Health Information Technology grant. We are also working with PPWFC on student funding related to nursing (TAA/WIA).

The HENPS Division is also working on the development/expansion of the Aviation program in collaboration with Peak Aviation for flight school and has developed a partnership with Goodwill for a Personal Care Partner program to meet the needs of their industry. HENPS officials are also working with officials from the City of Woodland Park on a Health Academy program and are continuing Nurse Aid and EMS programs in partnership with Falcon School District 49

All training workshops offered through the Economic and Workforce Development Division maintain a 3-Step Training Process:

1. Pre-training exercises designed to focus the participant on the topic and establish a motivational learning environment
2. Tailored interactive materials that address specific learning outcomes
3. Post-training follow-up and coaching exercises

PPCC's Student Services Division:

- Financial Aid: assisted the System office in developing guidelines and policies for online students to ensure the student taking the class is the one getting financial aid (also supports new regulation with HERA; working on making all financial aid communication with students online to lower costs for PPCC while meeting federal mandates on consumerism; increasing use of productive educational technology; has a team member on the new MyPPCC Portal in order to improve service to all students; trying to improve bookstore authorization process by arranging for students to get books while their financial aid is still pending, as long as required financial aid information has already been submitted and the only reason their financial aid is pending is due to the high volume of workloads.
- The Learning Assistance Center is piloting an online tutoring software application to help serve the increased number of distance education and nontraditional students.
- Campus Life: assisting with assessment for accreditation
- OASIS, the student disability services office, participated in AccessText Network training: an online alternate format request/search/tracking portal provided by major publishers to support national delivery of alternative electronic textbooks to higher education institutions.

Office of Strategy Management Activities:

- Conducted management analysis, analytical studies, and supported new databases for assessment of student learning in general education and instructional programs.
- Assisted the Division of Student Services to develop a comprehensive program for co-curricular assessment of student learning.
- Developed internal management reports to maintain and increase effectiveness and efficiency in educational programs and services.
- Supported the development of full-time/part-time faculty professional development programs around new instructional strategies.

Operational Excellence Goal: The financial stability of the system's institutions and the physical safety of its students shall be ensured.

PPCC has completed its Pandemic Preparedness Plan and published it on the Intranet. View the plan at: <http://www.ppcc.edu/intranet/media/files/official-policies-and-procedures/Pandemic%20Preparedness%20Plan.pdf>

PPCC sponsored a series of workshops during Professional Development Week for faculty and staff to learn more about violence on campus and what behaviors to be concerned about and how to report those concerns. The sessions were mandatory for faculty.

The PPCC Economic & Workforce Development Division continues to be the administrator for the State of Colorado Training Grant program. We have stepped up our marketing and sales efforts to make the business communities in both El Paso and Teller Counties aware of the Colorado First and Colorado Existing Industry grants. We are also advocating communications between our clients and prospects with the Pikes Peak Workforce Center to learn more about the Federal Stimulus Funds as they relate to business growth.

Campus Life staff is working with the local Ronald McDonald House to bring Health Care to Campus