



## College Report – Sept. 2010

**Patty Erjavec, *President***

### **Student Access to comprehensive academic programs**

**PCC to offer weatherization certificates** – PCC is one of two community colleges in Colorado that will offer weatherization certificate programs through a nearly \$1 million U.S. Department of Energy grant awarded to the Colorado Governor's Energy Office. PCC expects to begin offering the programs in the spring 2011 semester. Students will learn the skills needed to weatherize local homes, whose residents will earn rebates for making their homes more energy efficient. The curriculum will include a combination of online, classroom and field experience.

### **Student Success through development of a highly-skilled workforce**

**Students learn art gallery management** – For the eleventh consecutive year, students enrolled in PCC's "Business of Fine Arts" class this summer are learning first-hand how to manage an art gallery. The nine students hung and displayed every piece of artwork in the Colorado State Fair's Fine Art Exhibition and will serve as its managers throughout the Fair.

**Students at SCCC-West get job experience** – Students at our Southwest Colorado Community College West Campus in Mancos/Cortez took part in heavy equipment operator training in mid-summer through a Community-Based Job Training Grant. Seven students trained on each of six pieces of equipment by excavating, digging, dumping, and grading the dirt behind the buildings on the SCCC campus. The students then received real-job training with Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company under the supervision of their instructor.

### **Student Success through transition opportunities**

**Support program funded for five years** – The TRiO Student Support Services program at PCC has been selected for five-year grant funding of approximately \$1.663 million, with the initial year award being \$332,608 starting Sept. 1. The program helps first-generation and/or low-income students who need help completing their associate degree and/or would like to transfer to a four-year institution.

### **Student Success through high-quality instruction & services**

**Students eager to help local organizations** – At the start of September, PCC launched its AmeriCorps service program through a \$189,706 grant, and it will include at least 26 students servicing 13 local organizations during the 2010-2011 academic year. Students receive a stipend for working a set number of hours per week. The program aims to connect students with service work that makes a positive impact on the community.

**After-hours services expanded** – In response to a student survey that was conducted last fall, several services have been added in the College Center to help students after regular business hours every weekday except Fridays on the Pueblo campus. The Pro Shop, which already provided drop-in tutoring in math and English during the day, now also offers that service from 5 to 8 p.m. Students also can check out a laptop computer between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. In addition, the Pueblo Joe's coffeehouse café is open for grab-and-go food and soft drinks until 8 p.m.