



President's Report

Dr. J.D. Garvin, *President*

– May 2009 –

PCC in the news

Governor Ritter signed bill merging PCC's Southwest Campus, SJBTC - Governor Bill Ritter signed into law legislation that merges Pueblo Community College's Southwest Campus and the San Juan Basin Technical College into Southwest Colorado Community College. SCCC will operate as a division of Pueblo Community College. The new comprehensive two-year community college will have two locations, one in the former SJBTC building located eight miles east of Cortez and the second at The Commons building in downtown Durango. The Durango site has been designated the East Campus while the Cortez/Mancos location at 33057 U.S. Highway 160 is the West Campus. The SCCC also will offer courses at various high school and community sites throughout Colorado's Four Corners region that includes Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan counties.

Kane Foundation scholars strengthens PCC's university connections – Pueblo Community College's partnerships with four-year schools was enhanced with the awarding of Kane Family Foundation scholarships to two exceptional students. Fabian Ramirez and Chris Weaver were selected on the basis of their academic record, a formal application with essay, and an interview. The scholarships will cover up to five years of expenses for tuition, mandatory fees and books, starting with an associate's degree at PCC and finishing with a bachelor's degree at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Ramirez, who just finished his second semester at PCC, got his college start in high school through PCC's Advanced Vocational Education Program, which is a partnership between PCC and the two Pueblo school districts. Weaver graduated from Pueblo West High School in May. Both students met the scholarship criteria and were impressive in their interviews.

Veterans Club pays tribute to war veterans – The Veterans Club, along with PCC faculty, staff, students and their families, helped mark Memorial Day weekend by placing flags at the gravesites of war veterans buried in Pueblo's Roselawn Cemetery. The annual event is organized by Mike Thomason, the college's research librarian and advisor to the Veterans Club. A photo of Thomason placing the flags was featured on the front page of the Pueblo Chieftain on May 23.

Community Connections

Three inducted into Fremont Hall of Fame – More than 100 community members plus PCC staff members were on hand to salute three new inductees May 8 at the Fremont Hall of Fame banquet held on PCC's Fremont Campus. Marv Bradley, Jim Milam and Don Packard were recognized for making extraordinary contributions to the betterment of education and Fremont County. All three have been members of PCC advisory boards. Walter Schepp, a member of both the Fremont Advisory Council and the PCC Foundation Board of Directors, introduced each inductee and highlighted their community contributions. PCC President Dr. Garvin also paid

tribute to Bradley, Milam and Fremont Advisory Council member Susan Seufer, for being PCC Foundation visionaries. Proceeds from the evening will help provide student scholarships.

PCC helps WWWF have a successful first year – PCC played a significant role in the Professional Bull Riders Association's Wild Wild West Fest that was held May 13-17 and was a huge success in its inaugural year. The PCC Foundation served as the official sponsor of a day of team roping and barrel racing competition that drew entries from throughout Colorado and the surrounding region. PCC also had a float in the WWWF parade and its theater students performed "Travelin' Show" at the Union Depot, which sits at the foot of the Union Avenue district where many festival events were held. Also, PCC's Culinary Arts department had a festival booth where it demonstrated how to make tortillas.

Students overcome obstacles to earn GED diplomas – Twenty-five students were honored by family, friends, PCC representatives and other guests at a GED graduation ceremony held May 8 in PCC's Hoag Theatre. The graduates received glowing praise from PCC President Dr. J.D. Garvin and Pueblo County Commissioner Jeff Chostner, both of whom urged them to consider this achievement just the starting point of their education. Following the awarding of diplomas, four students were presented with PCC scholarships.

PCC helps raise Cancer Society raise funds – PCC served as the host site June 5 and 6 for the American Cancer Society's 2009 Relay for Life, an annual overnight event that raises money to help fight cancer and benefits local cancer survivors and their families. The event will begin at 6 pm Friday and continued until the closing ceremonies at 7 o'clock the next morning. Several PCC staff members and students participated in the relay, and Science instructor Nick Alfonso was a member of the event's planning committee.

PCC helps telethon raise record \$242,000 for scholarships – Our Center for New Media broadcasting crew and scores of other volunteers made the Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation's 21st annual Dollars and Scholars Telethon held at PCC on May 5 a huge success. A record \$242,000 in pledges was raised during the event. PCC President Dr. J.D. Garvin welcomed both stage hosts and the Channel 18 TV audience and pledged PCC's continued support of the project. Scott Richards, Coordinator of Media Productions, again was the director of the event. Proceeds from the telethon will be used to fund scholarships for Pueblo students attending PCC, CSU-Pueblo and other colleges.

Student/Staff News & Services

Faculty & staff hone skills at Summer Institute -- "We Are All Educators" was the theme of the Summer Institute professional development that took place May 5 and 6 on PCC's Pueblo campus. There were thought-provoking keynote speakers both days, and staff also had the opportunity to select the job-enhancing workshops and seminars of their choice on a number of different topics. The intentions were to inspire employees and provide tools to make their jobs easier and more productive.

15 high school students earn associate degrees – The Pueblo Early College dual-enrollment program that allows local students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously is growing astronomically. After having six students graduate from their high schools with an associate degree from PCC last year, the number jumped to 16 this year, is expected to reach approximately 40 next year and could double that the following year. One main reason for the growth is that PCC's partnership with the Dolores Huerta Preparatory High charter school has been replicated with the two Pueblo school districts.

Honoring Alternative High School Diploma Program graduates – For the first time, PCC hosted separate events for the Alternative High School Diploma Program graduations, with the Fremont County ceremony at our Fremont Campus on Wednesday, May 27, and the Pueblo version the following evening at Memorial Hall in Pueblo. The program graduated 136 students.

Massage Therapy students raise funds, gain experience – Students opened a Massage Therapy Clinic for a limited time as a way to promote their program to the community, gain clinical training hours and raise funds for future projects. The students designed the clinic, located in the Medical Arts & Technology Building, to resemble a professional massage parlor complete with rooms divided by privacy curtains. The clinic will continue through July 2.

Outlaws club funds auto scholarship – The Outlaws Rod and Custom Car Club recently donated a portion of the proceeds from its ninth annual car show to fund a new Outlaws Scholarship at PCC. The scholarship will provide a minimum \$500 scholarship for a full-time student enrolled in either the Automotive Technology or Automotive Collision Technology programs. Talk to Automotive program honchos Jim Torres or Robert Maez for more information.