



College Report – February 2011

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Student Access to comprehensive academic programs

Students urged to apply for scholarships – PCC is using flyers, posters, financial aid counseling, and electronic and other print mediums to heavily promote the scholarship opportunities that are available to students. The PCC Foundation has earmarked more than \$250,000 for scholarships during the 2011-2012 school year. Also, students are being informed that \$600,000 in College Access Scholarship funds is also available for the upcoming academic year through the CCHE's Education Cents initiative.

Student Success through development of a highly-skilled workforce

Paramedic program expanded to SCCC division – Emergency Medical Technicians in the Southwest region of Colorado will now have access to the training needed to become paramedics. PCC's Southwest Colorado Community College division will start a paramedic program in the fall 2011 semester, and its pre-requisite courses (Biology 106 and 201) are filled for the current semester. Jobs for paramedics are plentiful in many different areas such as hospitals, ambulance services, ski patrols, etc.

Medical coding program accredited by AHIMA – PCC has become the only college in Colorado to have a Medical Coding program accredited by the American Health Information Management Association. Medical coding is the transformation of narrative descriptions of diseases, injuries and healthcare procedures into numeric or alphanumeric designations for use in clinical care, research, and education. Students who earn the Medical Coding certificate can take the Certified Coding Associate (CCA) examination given by AHIMA.

Accounting students providing free tax return preparation – PCC accounting students are enhancing their skills in customer service, community service and confidentiality by serving as volunteers in The Piton Foundation's Tax Help Colorado initiative. Sixteen students are preparing income tax returns free for community members as well as PCC Pueblo and Fremont Campus faculty, staff and students who have a family income under \$49,000. The students took an income tax class and were certified by the Internal Revenue Service. The service is being provided on Thursdays and Saturdays through March 5 on the Pueblo campus.

Student Success through transitional opportunities

Early start put PCC student on road to All-Colorado Academic team – Ashlee Huntley has excelled since enrolling at PCC, first while in high school through the Advanced Vocational Educational Partnership, a concurrent-enrollment program, and now as a full time student. The 19-year-old Pueblo West High School graduate, who carries a 4.0 grade-point average, has been selected to the Phi Theta Kappa All-Colorado Academic team. She will graduate in May.

Ensuring operational excellence & student safety

Faculty and staff complete "Respect" training – To promote a respectful atmosphere on all of its campuses, PCC took the advice of its Safety & Security Committee that all faculty and staff gain a better understanding of correct office protocol by taking a "Respect in the Workplace" online training course. Upon completion of the course, employees receive an online certificate of completion that they file with their supervisors and Human Resources office.

New initiative promotes good health – On Jan. 31, PCC's "Ready, Set, Go" health and wellness program launched the Ultimate Panther Fitness Challenge initiative to give students, faculty and staff on the Pueblo campus the chance to get healthier and in better shape. The 12-week program includes cardiovascular and toning activities, regular weigh-ins, goal-setting, daily challenges, prizes, healthy cooking seminars, etc.