



Contacts for more information:

Shannon South, West Campus Dean
970.564.6212
Shannon.South@pueblocc.edu

Teresa Malone, Coordinator of Grants
& Public Relations
970.247.2929, ext. 7238
Teresa.Malone@pueblocc.edu

NEWS RELEASE – Feb. 10, 2011

**SCCC spring semester sees record enrollment;
classes being taught throughout the region**

MANCOS/CORTEZ – No matter how you look at it, student enrollment has skyrocketed this semester at Pueblo Community College’s Southwest Colorado Community College (SCCC) West Campus here. Both the number of students taking classes and the credits they are enrolled in are up substantially from the spring semester of 2010 and at record levels.

There are 285 full- or part-time students enrolled this spring, up from 185 last spring, an increase of 54 percent. And, as West Campus Dean Shannon South points out, “Students are taking a total of 73% more credits than this time last year. We are really pleased to see this growth at our campus.”

Some of this growth can be attributed to the new Cosmetology program and considerable interest from secondary students who are enrolled in the Automotive Service Technology program and earning high school and college credit simultaneously. Also popular are new Computer Information Systems classes in Network Security and Computer Forensics, and the Welding shop has captured more students by adding 10 new welding machines.

Additionally, SCCC is also teaching courses off campus in Towaoc at the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe and in area high schools, giving secondary students the opportunity to take college-level courses during the regular school day. The numbers show 45 students taking SCCC classes at Montezuma-Cortez High School and another 88 at Dolores High

While most of the SCCC classes being taught at the high schools are standard academic subjects like math, English, chemistry, biology, and foreign language, other subjects being offered are art, web authoring, and Emergency Medical Technician.

“Students are earning college credit applicable towards their high school diplomas,” South explained. “This is a great opportunity for high school students in our rural region

to get a wider variety of course offerings than each individual high school would be able to offer on its own.”

Registration for summer classes begins April 4. For more information on classes and programs, call 970.247.2929 or visit www.EnrollSouthwest.org

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Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence to help its students acquire the 21st Century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest Colorado campuses.