



College Report – August 2011

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Student Access to comprehensive academic programs

Polysomnography Tech program to be accredited – A site visit accreditation team's report lauded the strengths of PCC's Polysomnography Technology program, which started in the fall of 2010 and is the only such program in Colorado. Polysomnography is a multi-parametric test used in the study of sleep and as a diagnostic tool in sleep medicine. The program had its first graduates at the end of July. Official accreditation is expected this fall.

New HIT certificate program classes begin – Classes have begun in the new Health Information Technology's Implementation Management & Support certificate program that includes 19½ credits and utilizes a hybrid format for each six-week class. The program aims to meet the growing demand for professionals to manage and use electronic health records. It is one of six HIT certificate programs being offered through an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant awarded to a Colorado consortium of five colleges, with PCC being the coordinating institute.

Fremont Campus getting close to first fund-raising goal – Following two recent fund raisers, PCC has now raised almost \$650,000 toward the \$1.2 million needed to begin the first phase of the \$2 million expansion of the Fremont Campus in Canon City, with PCC having pledged an additional \$250,000. The initial phase will include a student center and additional classroom and office spaces. The expansion is needed because of enrollment that has tripled since the Fremont Campus opened in 2001.

Student Success through high-quality instruction and educational service

New Learning Center to become a reality – A groundbreaking event was held Aug. 1 for the much-needed new Learning Center that will occupy 10,000 square feet in the Davis Academic Building basement. State-funded but de-funded twice because of budgetary pressures, the project is being financed through a \$4 million bond sale that will be repaid incrementally. It will expand the ability to service students, thus increasing academic success. The facility will achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold status by utilizing geothermal energy for heating and cooling.

Equipment donation to benefit Fire Science students – Students enrolled in the Fire Science Technology program can now receive even more advanced training thanks to the donation of \$45,000 worth of state-of-the-art "Jaws of Life" rescue equipment by a firm that provides emergency responder equipment to public safety agencies. The tools will be used in a vehicle extrication class and will make students more competitive in the workforce. The new equipment will be used at all PCC campuses.

PCC to probe feasibility of developing student housing – Part of the \$2 million estate that the late Pueblo businessman Tom Healy left to PCC and CSU-Pueblo in his estate included a 30-unit apartment complex that PCC will explore the feasibility of using as student resident housing by fall 2012. The estate left other property assets to PCC, which also will establish a scholarship in Healy's name.

New Customer Solutions Center taking shape – The goal of having a centralized and more efficient method of servicing telephone requests is becoming a reality through the development of a Customer Solutions Center. A coordinator and two specialists were hired and trained and are beginning to field a portion of the calls to PCC. The center was created to reduce the growing demand on individual offices. Three temps will be hired to help handle the busiest time prior to the start of the fall semester.

Student Success through development of a high-skilled workforce

Auto student captures gold – PCC student Jonah Castillo won the first-place gold medal in the Automotive Service Technology "Job Skills Demonstration A" category at the SkillsUSA National Conference held in Kansas City, MO, on June 22. Jonah did his demonstration on an automobile starter, explaining how the various parts work and comparing a starter to a human heart.