



College Report – March 2011

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Student Access to comprehensive academic programs

New Program Review to serve as great evaluation tool – PCC is completing the first cycle of an Academic Resource Management Review (ARM) process, a new initiative adopted to address effective teaching and learning at the program level. It documents academic program outcomes specific to the quality of assessment of student learning plans, the academic environment, and qualifications of faculty and instructors. It will provide PCC with a comprehensive overview that can be used as an evaluation tool.

Students take advantage of free FAFSA help – More than 60 high school seniors and college students received free help filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms on February 13 during College Goal Sunday at PCC. Nearly 40 PCC volunteers provided expert aid, and the program included presentations on career choices and college funding options.

Scholarship contest part of big school rivalry – The Durango vs. Montezuma-Cortez high school rivalry is huge in Southwest Colorado, and PCC was on hand Jan. 27 at the M-C gymnasium for the schools' girls' and boys' basketball games. PCC personnel staged a half-court shooting contest that gave high school seniors the chance to win a \$1,000 scholarship to attend our SCCC West Campus in Mancos. The contest added great excitement to the evening.

Student Success through high-quality instruction and educational service

PCC gets glowing praise in Perkins review – A review of CCCS-approved Perkins federal grant plans and a Field Council site visit have resulted in PCC receiving a Best Practices designation for its use of Carl D. Perkins grant funds in career and technical education programs. PCC was noted for moving to a system of managing Perkins funds via a strategic planning model, to ensure that funded projects have a link to college priorities and industry needs. The model has provided new programs with a three-year implementation window for proving sustainability. Plus, the college has utilized equipment purchases, resource materials and new learning initiatives to improve student success in technical programs. PCC also was cited for its linkages to industry and reliance on advisory committees to improve current programs and add new ones.

Student Success through development of a highly-skilled workforce

Dental Assisting students sharpen their skills – Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene students received real-job experience by helping six volunteer Pueblo dentists to provide free services to 90 community members on Feb. 19. Sponsored by United Way of Pueblo, the program enabled patients to receive cleanings plus X-rays and screenings to qualify for fillings and extractions.

PCC, Evraz recognized for having effective partnership – PCC's strong partnership with Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel has drawn national recognition from the Steel Manufacturers Association (SMA) for helping prepare a highly skilled workforce. PCC provides training programs for Evraz maintenance department employees, enabling the company to compete in a global economy. Evraz will be presented with an award at SMA's annual Members Conference in May.

Students vow to complete their education – Nearly 500 PCC students signed a commitment to complete their certificate or degree on Feb. 17 when PCC held a Community College Completion Challenge. The rally was organized and conducted by the Phi Theta Kappa student organization in response to a charge by President Obama to increase the U.S. number of college graduates.

Culinary students make impression in community – Culinary Arts students had two excellent opportunities to display their knowledge to the public in separate community events. On Jan. 30, they staged an "Iron Chef" competition as part of the Pueblo Health Expo at the Pueblo Convention Center. Then on Feb. 4, they operated a booth at the Chocolate Indulgence fund raiser for the Pueblo YWCA and captured first place in the Best Chocolate category.