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

**DURANGO** – The trend that has seen student enrollment increase at Pueblo Community College’s Southwest Colorado Community College (SCCC) East Campus the past three semesters has continued this spring. There are 496 full- or part-time students enrolled this spring semester, up from 426 at this time last year for a rise of 16 percent.

“The enrollment growth over the last three years has been wonderful” said Dr. Lynn Urban, Dean of the Durango (East) Campus. “It has brought a great energy to our campus and a lot of momentum to continue offering new programs and services to our students. The community has been very supportive of our expansion and has helped to accommodate with shared use of available space.”

In addition to maxing out available space at the Durango campus, located in The Commons building downtown, SCCC is teaching classes in Pagosa Springs, Silverton and leasing space for two college classes from Durango High School.

SCCC is also teaching classes in area high schools, giving secondary students the opportunity to take college-level courses during the regular school day through concurrent enrollment agreements. This semester, Ignacio , Montezuma-Cortez, Dolores High School and Durango high schools are all offering SCCC classes in their schedules.

Typical of community colleges, SCCC serves a wide range of students from under 18 to over 65 years old. This semester, students from area high schools are attending classes here at SCCC. They are coming from as far away as Pagosa Springs and Ignacio high schools. It also has students from Durango and Durango Big Picture high schools and several home school students taking classes in The Commons.

While most of the students attending SCCC are here only part-time, many students are studying full-time for their Associate of Arts degree. Also available here in Durango are four career and technical education programs which require students to attend full-time:

- Nursing
- Radiologic Technology
- Respiratory Care Practitioner
- Law Enforcement Academy

According to Urban, “The spring semester is off to a great start. Students are busy with classes, studying in the computer lab, learning with tutors, and working with our clinical partners’ sites. It is nice to be in such a thriving place.”

Even though the semester has already started and most classes are full, there will be plenty of classes available this summer, and registration for the summer semester begins April 4. For more information on classes and programs, call 970.247.2929 or visit [www.EnrollSouthwest.org](http://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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.*