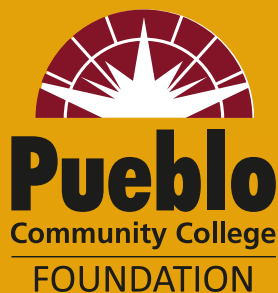


# LEGACY

Honor  
the  
Past  
■  
Ensure  
the  
Future



*The Journey of a Thousand Miles  
Begins With One Step. ~ Laozi*



# A Message from the President



Pueblo Community College has a service area of 11,194 square miles with branch campuses in Pueblo, Canon City, Durango and Cortez/Mancos. How fitting then, that our mantra for this academic school year is *"The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins With One Step"* - Laozi. Commencing this 2010-2011 academic school year, we have rededicated ourselves to our students, taking a symbolic "first step" with them on

August 23, the first day of class on all four campuses. To our diverse student body and unique communities, we make the commitment to be with these outstanding individuals for their entire educational journey at PCC and look forward to the day when these same students will successfully graduate with an associate degree or a certificate and will enter the workforce as well-educated, highly skilled employees.

Our students are sure to find that employers will be eager to hire them. Our business and industry partners know the value of a community college education. In fact, employers value our students for both their knowledge and skills because they have learned how to learn. Our students who continue their education at four-year colleges and universities will soon discover that their experiences here at Pueblo Community College have prepared them for academic success. Research shows that community college graduates do as well as or better than students who begin their education at a four-year institution.

Speaking of business and industry partners, we are so pleased to feature EVRAZ in this issue. We are happy for this long-standing Pueblo employer and the industry success it is once again enjoying. We believe that our partnership with EVRAZ has lent itself to a better prepared, more highly skilled workforce – so necessary for a steel mill to compete in this global economy.

A \$1.9 million job training grant awarded to Pueblo Community College in 2008 brought U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis to the campus in July to see just how the federal dollars were being spent to create jobs. During her visit, we were able to show Secretary Solis the four mobile job-training labs that the funds helped us create and equip, as well as the equipment and curriculum that PCC is using to train workers at EVRAZ (and others) throughout the state. Secretary Solis was accompanied on the tour by Rep. John

Salazar, D-CO, and Don Mares, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

The mobile labs are air-conditioned trailers that have been outfitted with training stations. One lab is devoted to welding, one to electrical work and a third to manufacturing equipment. The fourth contains lathes and other machine equipment. We are especially proud that Secretary Solis credited Pueblo Community College for incorporating six hours of safety training into its curriculum. She said national statistics indicate that an average of 14 workers a day are killed in workplace accidents.

In conclusion, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our numerous community partners and those who have financially invested in our success as a viable educational institution. Approximately 665 students were awarded \$447,548 in scholarships for this academic year because of your generosity; this includes two students who were recently awarded Kane Family Scholarships! In addition, we are recent recipients of a number of federal initiatives, including a weatherization grant, a health technology grant, and an AmeriCorps program grant to name but a few. In this time of such depressed economic conditions, we appreciate your support and are humbled to be the benefactor of additional funds to enhance the quality of education provided to all students at Pueblo Community College.

If you would like additional information about Pueblo Community College and our four outstanding campuses, I encourage you to visit our website at [www.pueblocc.edu](http://www.pueblocc.edu) or feel free to call my office for a personal tour.

With warm regards,

  
Patty Erjavec, MNM  
President

# We Put the “Community” in Community Colleges

by *Patty Erjavec, PCC President*

A prescribed core value embedded into Pueblo Community College's culture is “Responsible Citizenship.” Not only are PCC's employees involved in over 150 different non-profit boards, advisory councils and the like, but its students also integrate themselves back into the community by providing a variety of services via professional practicums.

One shining example of integrating the community and professional practicum is PCC's Dental Clinic. This budding group of studying dental hygienists serves a clientele of over 1,000 patients annually. The Clinic's mission is two-fold: increase access to oral health services for low-income, uninsured and under-insured individuals in Pueblo and Southern Colorado; and educate dental assisting and dental hygiene students in the restorative dental process.

## *Pay It Forward*

In addition to PCC employees and students serving their community service areas, there are over 430 community volunteers who, in turn, serve on department advisory councils specific to the discipline being represented by Pueblo Community College. This group of outstanding individuals lends its talent and professional experience on a regular basis to our deans, department chairs and faculty to ensure that the curriculum taught at PCC is rigorous, relevant and relationship (customer service) based.

The culture here at Pueblo Community College is such that we are staunch proponents of civic citizenship. *We teach it, we live it, and we believe it!*

*Pueblo Cooperative Care Center's “Sack Hunger” Awareness Campaign Event in August.*



*President Erjavec was among other community leaders from various organizations throughout Pueblo who took time out of their schedules to sack some groceries that were provided to families in need.*

## *The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins With One Step. ~ Laozi*

### **PCC Celebrates First Step**

The first day of the fall semester was celebrated in various ways on all four campuses. A Celebration Walk and barbecue were the highlights of the event on the Pueblo campus. A live radio remote, including interviews with different departments of PCC, got things started in the morning. A brief program in the front of the GATC included a proclamation reading by City Councilman Leroy Garcia, a PCC EMS instructor. Through the distribution of free t-shirts from 8 to 11 a.m., the campus became a sea of maroon by the time lunch time rolled around. Wearing one of the shirts was everyone's ticket to the free lunch. A similar barbecue was held on the Fremont Campus in late afternoon, and an ice cream social took place on the SCCC East Campus. A barbecue was conducted for both afternoon and evening students and staff on the SCCC West Campus.

**COVER PHOTO BY STEVE BIGLEY**

## Honor the Past Ensure the Future **LEGACY**

**Publisher** – PCC Foundation  
**Editor** – Diane Porter  
**Designer** – Diane Hochevar

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**[www.pueblocc.edu/about-us/foundation](http://www.pueblocc.edu/about-us/foundation)**

# From the 2010-2012 PCCF President

I am honored to serve as President of the Pueblo Community College Foundation for the next two years. Our board is composed of many past and present civic leaders from all aspects of life. What makes my job enjoyable are the positive attitudes, personal commitments and unconditional love for our College that our board members show year after year.

First, we want to emphasize how thankful we are to the countless donations we have received over the years from our donors. With your monetary support and acts of kindness, the Foundation has been able to provide hundreds of students something special; an opportunity, a realized dream or that one chance to make something of themselves.

The economic downturn forced us to tighten our belts; at the same time, our College saw astounding growth. People from every segment of our community have turned to higher education as the safest port in a storm of economic change and uncertainty. They want to develop new skills, acquire more specialized knowledge and update their training and credentials. Pueblo Community College continues to offer opportunities that fit a multitude of needs and interests, from the most basic skills to focused job training. Our certificates, diplomas and associate degree programs prepare people at every level for the demands of today's workplace.

Even in these trying times, our donors continue to step up and help our students reach success. It is extremely vital to sustain our level of scholarships during these times when jobs are hard to come by and enrollment soars.

Over time, the economy will get better. More jobs will become available. Our current students will become an asset

in the workforce. They will succeed. They will be part of our family forever, no matter where they take root. Those students will become future donors, and the circle of giving will start over.



*Ryan*  
Ryan S. Griego



## PCC Foundation Annual Report Statement of Financial Position Year Ended June 30, 2010

### ASSETS

Current Assets	\$390,164
Receivables	809,403
Prepaid Expenses	7,527
Investments	5,131,409
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$6,338,503</b>

### LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$8,968
Deferred Revenue	2,628
Rental Deposits	9,686
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$21,282</b>

### NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$750,377
Temporarily Restricted	4,490,292
Permanently Restricted	1,076,552
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$6,317,221</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$6,338,503</b>
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### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

#### REVENUE

Contributions/Fundraising/In-kind	\$2,193,783
Investment Income	130,467
Realized & Unrealized	
Gain/Loss on investments	125,598
Miscellaneous	109,109
<b>Total Revenue &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$2,558,957</b>

#### EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$275,734
Scholarships	247,191
Management & General	205,491
Fundraising expenses	172,612
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$901,028</b>

Change in Net Asset Value	1,657,929
---------------------------	-----------

<b>Total Expenses &amp; Change in Net Asset Value</b>	<b>\$2,558,957</b>
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<b>Net Assets – June 30, 2009</b>	<b>\$4,659,292</b>
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<b>Net Assets – June 30, 2010</b>	<b>\$6,317,221</b>
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### Pueblo Community College Foundation Mission

To provide funding to Pueblo Community College and its students through Foundation-approved fund raising activities for student scholarships and special needs identified by the College.



# Scholarship Recipients



The 2010-2011 recipient of the Marilyn Joan Dennis Memorial Scholarship is Jennifer Jamo.

**The Marilyn Joan Dennis Memorial Scholarship** was created by parents Bert and Ramona Dennis to remember their daughter who was a PCC student and passed away due to cancer in 1990. Marilyn was enrolled in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program and was known for friendship, gentleness, helpfulness, and a hardworking attitude. This scholarship is restricted to a student within the OTA program who demonstrates exemplary academic success, moral and ethical leadership evidenced by involvement in professional and volunteer activities, and

the ability to manage more than the challenges of college courses.

**The Dr. Mike Davis Legacy Scholarship** was created by the Davis family in 2006 after the PCC President tragically passed away in an airplane accident.

Dr. Davis was a tireless advocate for students and a man who devoted his career to the mission of community colleges. He is also remembered for his steadfast leadership and support of the College's staff. This is a merit scholarship and is restricted to a recent high school graduate who is strongly motivated to earn a college education and excels in their pursuits.



The 2010-2011 recipient of the Dr. Mike Davis Legacy Scholarship is Michelle L. Gonzales.

## Enthusiasm and Discipline Shape Student's Success

By David McKean



**Raechel Cook** started as a student at Pueblo Community College while still in high school (PCC's Early College Program) and in 2006 became a full-time student pursuing an AA degree with an art emphasis.

I teach some of the foundation classes at PCC. When I first met Raechel, I distinctively remember

that this petite young lady had an enthusiasm for learning about art that was twice her stature. When this enthusiasm became focused, her determination to reach her artistic goals increased. Raechel developed her skills by her attentiveness to instruction, a willingness to experiment and disciplined work habits. These are qualities that every art teacher hopes to find in all of his/her students and are essential to success.

The Art Department at PCC places emphasis on preparing students to transfer to any four-year art program with strong skills, a good foundation in art history and theory, and, most importantly, the confidence to succeed. As Raechel nears completion of her Bachelor's Degree in art from the University of Northern Colorado, I see a student whose artwork shows maturity in both skill and concept. I am proud to have played a small part in helping her fulfill her goals.

Raechel's success reminds us that the art program at PCC impacts our students in a very positive way. Raechel is presently looking into Master's of Fine Arts graduate school programs.



Some of Raechel's work/work in progress can be seen on her blog at <http://mysketchbookpages.blogspot.com/>

### PCCF EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Ryan Griego  
Vice President Sharon Swerdfeger  
Treasurer Jay Dammann  
Secretary Renee Rodriquez

### PCCF BOARD of DIRECTORS

Rogene Armstrong	Carlos Baca
Matt Bailey	Carla Barela
Kaleigh Barnard	Amos Cordova
Barbara Fortino	Jonathan B. Gary
Sean McCarthy	Jim Milam
Kelly Novak-Montano	Cindy Nunez
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Geoffrey T. Gordon

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Tony Fortino	Maxine Golenda
Bob Rice	Bob Silva

### PCC FOUNDATION STAFF

Diane Porter, Executive Director  
Christian Nyberg, Coordinator/Accountant  
Bianca Flores, Administrative Assistant  
Kathy McHugh, Interim Administrative Assistant  
Cheryl Baca, Work Study Student





Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel, a division of Evraz Inc. NA, today bears little resemblance to the mill that was first built in Pueblo more than 135 years ago. Like many U.S. manufacturing companies, Evraz has adapted its product base and process technology over the past several decades to be leaner and more competitive in the global economy.

Today, nearly 1,000 people work in Evraz's state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, producing steel used in a wide variety of industries including railroad, construction and energy.

# FORGING



The workforce at Evraz is as diverse and highly skilled as you will find in many industries. Administrative staff and managers work in areas such as finance, sales, marketing, business operations, safety, procurement, quality assurance, and payroll. Each one of these roles is important to the success of the business, ensuring smooth environmental day-to-day operations.

On the manufacturing side, maintenance and production managers work diligently to run and support the primary steelmaking and manufacturing activity. Quality assurance inspectors apply math skills and logical thinking to ensure consistent productivity for mills that run 24/7 while highly skilled production workers put their technical training to the test, operating equipment and ensuring process control. Whatever the position, maintaining a safe working environment and training employees are two key priorities for all workers.

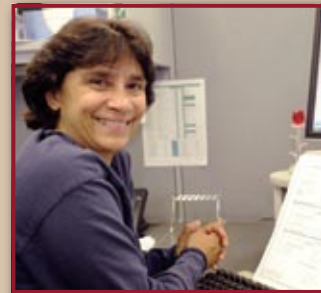
Pueblo Community College (PCC) to develop the highly skilled workforce that will guide the company into the future.

While Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel has been around for decades, the steel mill today is more automated, and workers must understand complex systems. Sophisticated equipment such as programmable logic controllers, sensing devices, high-capacity electric arc furnaces, and advanced hydraulic systems, serve central functions in the steelmaking operations, providing production, maintenance and quality assurance staff information critical to uphold Evraz's production and quality standards and ensure consistent quality production.

One of Evraz's most successful workforce development initiatives is the apprenticeship program for Evraz

manufacturing equipment in the mills.

Over the past several years, PCC's Economic and Workforce Development Division has worked closely with Evraz to design custom training programs for new mechanical and electric personnel, which are both highly-technical positions. These programs usually incorporate a mix of theory and hands-



**Corrine Candelaria**  
Quality Assurance Coordinator  
Seamless Mill

"Evraz (is) driving and making great strides to make all employees successful. PCC...drove the importance of acquiring an education which would begin to open doors (for employment)."

# STRONG BONDS

## Workforce Development

Like most employers, Evraz is facing very real challenges as Baby Boomers retire. Even though the economic downturn has delayed retirement for many Americans, experienced workers are expected to leave the workforce in the coming years. To ensure a smooth transition, Evraz is working closely with



**Nikki Hansen**  
Senior Human Resources Generalist

employees looking to advance in their job field. The four-year program, which kicked off in 2005, combines 575 hours of academic theory at PCC's Gorsich Advanced Technical Center and 8,000 hours of on-the-job training in the mill. It is certified by the U.S. Department of Labor and graduates receive diplomas from the Secretary of Labor and PCC. This year's new class of apprentices is the largest yet, with 13 Evraz employees beginning the program in the fall.

The need for specialized training is a must in the apprenticeship program. In recognition of this need, George Schleining, the Vice President and General Manager of Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel, recently approved hydraulic systems training, which is a vital part of the sophisticated systems that control the massive

on training to simulate the challenges workers will face on the job. The length of training ranges from 140 to 200 hours and is designed to fit into the employee's work schedule.

*continued on next page*



**Standing:** Ricardo Maestes- Accounts Payable Clerk;  
Adam Harshman- Accounts Payable Clerk.  
**Sitting:** Laura Toth- General Ledger Accountant;  
Linda Friend- Accounts Receivable Clerk;  
Cindy Herman- General Ledger Accountant

## PCC & EVRAZ ... POSITIVE RESULTS

### Lifelong Learning

In addition to building a new, more diverse workforce, Evraz's partnership with PCC is part of the company's commitment to lifelong learning, offering both new and current employees opportunities for practical training, building new skill sets, and earning post-secondary degrees.

Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel also brings in PCC instructors to offer practical skills training at the mill, which is open to all employees. These classes focus on specific, important business skills such as business writing, presentation skills, and human behavior and ethics. Nearly 70 employees

participated in the last on-site training session.

Employees at Evraz who choose to pursue a degree at PCC are eligible for 100 percent reimbursement for tuition and books. Many Evraz employees have realized professional and personal success through this route. For example, Tony Steffani went back to PCC for an associate's degree and later received a bachelor's in electrical engineering through Evraz's tuition assistance program. Today, he is the maintenance manager, overseeing a department of 200 people.

The partnership between Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel and PCC has yielded positive results for the

company, the school and the people of Pueblo. Evraz has built a strong workforce with the skills and drive to succeed in the highly-competitive steel industry. PCC has tapped into the business and technical expertise at Evraz, with Director of Human Resources Bob Schwetje serving on the President's Council, and Tim Hylton, PhD, Director, Technical Services, on the PCC technical



**Tony Steffani**  
*Manager, Maintenance Department;*  
**Jim Becco**  
*Maintenance Supervisor, Machine/Boiler Shop*  
**Bob Nardini**  
*General Supervisor Shops, Maintenance*

advisory board. Workers can attain the high-tech skills that will make them successful in long-term careers with one of our community's longest standing employers.



**Linda Hamler**  
*General Supervisor*  
*Quality Assurance Seamless Mill*

"PCC is an excellent school. The Engineering Department instructors all had experience in the workforce which enabled them to relate theory to practice."

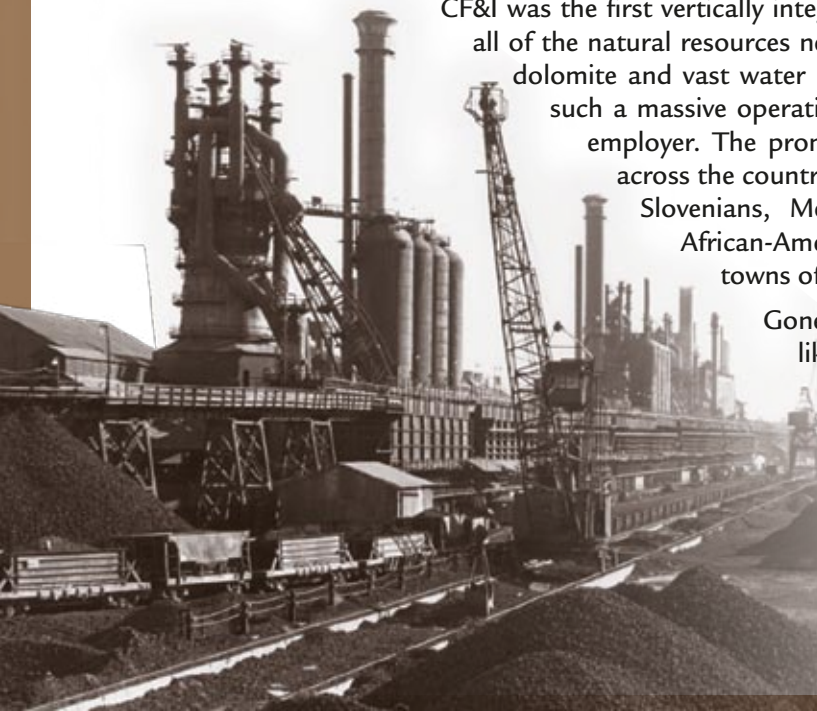
*for more information . . .*

please contact **Bob Schwetje**, Director, Human Resources,  
**Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel**  
at (719) 561-7050 or **Amanda Ackerman**, Operations Coordinator,  
Economic and Workforce Development Department, PCC  
at (719) 549-3163.

Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel, originally called the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company (CF&I), was a firm of enormous importance to the industrialization of the West and played a pivotal role in the history of American labor relations. The company's roots stretch back to 1872 when the Denver and Rio Grande Railway wanted a local source for steel rail to supply their expanding narrow-gauge empire.

CF&I was the first vertically integrated steel mill west of the Mississippi River and controlled all of the natural resources necessary to produce steel including coal, iron ore, limestone, dolomite and vast water reserves. Thousands of employees were required to operate such a massive operation, and for many years CF&I was the state's largest private employer. The promise of work in the mines and mills brought workers from across the country and immigrants from around the globe. Italians, Croatians, Slovenians, Mexicans, Germans, Greeks, Japanese, Hispanic-Americans, African-Americans and many more came to the coal camps and company towns of CF&I.

Gone are the days of producing steel by combining raw materials like iron ore, limestone and coke (carbon). Now, 100 percent of the steel produced by Evraz is from recycled metal giving the company the distinction of being the state's largest recycler. To put this in context, Evraz processes one million scrap cars a year – unwanted metal that would otherwise be collecting in landfills. Evraz Rocky Mountain Steel is proud to be an important part of the American economy and a company that is making the world stronger.





# Plan a Significant Future Gift

## TAX ADVANTAGES NOW

from Diane Porter,  
PCC Foundation Executive Director

## with Little Cost to You!

Many of our supporters can't imagine living anywhere else but their current homes. Many would also love to make a major gift to Pueblo Community College through its Foundation but don't have the means to make such a gift today. If this sounds like you, consider a charitable giving arrangement called a retained life estate.

### An Example of How It Works

With a retained life estate, you deed a personal residence or farm to PCCF now. You retain the right to occupy the home for life and continue to pay real estate taxes, maintenance fees and insurance on the property. In addition, you can later decide to rent your home or make improvements to it. AFTER your lifetime—and the lifetime of your spouse or another person you choose to retain rights to live in the home — PCCF takes possession of the property.

You qualify for a sizable income tax deduction in the year the gift is made. The amount of your tax deduction is based, in part, on your age and the value of the property.

- You can immediately deduct the amount of your gift up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income and carry over any unused deduction for up to five additional years.
- The gift isn't subject to capital gains tax.
- The property avoids federal estate tax as long as the life estate was created for you and/or your spouse.
- If at any point you no longer wish to occupy the property, you can rent it to provide you with an additional source of income; or you can give PCCF the right to use the property for the rest of your life. This will provide you with yet another tax deduction.

### Legacy Club

Pueblo Community College Foundation has created the Legacy Club to honor and thank you!

Simply by identifying that Pueblo Community College Foundation (PCCF) is in your will, living trust or other testamentary arrangement, or by establishing an endowment fund of \$10,000 or more with the PCCF, you become a member of the Legacy Club. Membership means that you are:

- a strong supporter of PCC students and higher education; and
- investing in your community.

With your permission, your name will be included:

- with the entire group of Legacy members in our Legacy magazine;
- on our Foundation website;
- and on our Legacy Club wall on the College Campus.

If you would like more information about Planned Giving or would like to join this honorary group of donors, please contact the Foundation Office, Diane Porter at 719 549-3303 and request an application. *It's that simple.*



### Fore! A Good Cause



### PCC Foundation's Golf Tournament

was held in September at Hollydot Golf Course. The Foundation thanks the golfers who participated in the annual fundraiser. They enjoyed great company, perfect weather and festive dining. PCC Foundation is also very grateful for the corporate sponsorships from our community: St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center, PCC Bookstore, Atlas Pacific Engineering Company, Inc., MorganStanley SmithBarney and MBDG Certified Public Accountants.



MorganStanley  
SmithBarney

St. Mary-Corwin  
Medical Center  
Centura Health.

# SCCC-West Orientation Focus: More Active Student Life

New student orientation was held August 21 on the SCCC-West Campus. Student services sent out approximately 100 reminders and received 30 responses. But when 100 students and family members showed up that Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., staff and faculty scrambled to find seating and re-adjust the schedule to accommodate the crowd.

One of the goals at SCCC is to build a more active "student life." During orientation, faculty members offered a session on creating more clubs and activities to help support this goal. The session was interactive and fun. Students split up in to small groups to brainstorm ways to become more involved in student government, student clubs, and student activities. It soon became apparent that students want to get more involved in healthy campus activities. There were some common ideas that ran between all of the groups ranging from academic centered activities (book clubs) to health and fitness opportunities (yoga club) to social activities (paint ball club). This activity was definitely a first step toward reaching our goal.

## Ribbon CUTTING HIGHLIGHTS Cosmetology Program Opening

The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for the SCCC West Campus cosmetology program was held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 2nd. The ribbon cutting was supported by the Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce. PCC President Patty Erjavec traveled from Pueblo to attend the event and was accompanied by her assistant, the Dean of Health Professions, the Department Chair for the Cosmetology program, and the Marketing Director. Representatives from the local Workforce Development Center and local community members were on hand to celebrate the opening of this new program. A student speaker expressed how happy she is to be in the program and how excited she is to be gaining new skills that will enable her to find a job when she graduates. A tour of the cosmetology classroom and shop was offered and light refreshments were served.



Cosmetology Student  
Krystin Charley



Brenda Maez,  
Coordinator  
SCCC-West School  
of Cosmetology

## Lab Work



## Heavy Equipment Operator Certificates ...

are offered at SCCC-West Campus for students who are interested in learning to operate large equipment. The college is fortunate to have a 40-acre campus with a large area of undeveloped land that students use to practice their skills. ***This is their lab!*** The 16-credit certificate can be completed in one semester. The courses include Motor Grader, Backhoe, Front End Loader, and Basic Bulldozer training. Students also have the opportunity to practice using their skills on real world jobs which are often located off site.

## Early College

Many high school students in Southwest Colorado are getting a "jump start" on their higher education pathway by participating in "Early College" opportunities – taking college level classes either at the West Campus or at their home schools. There are many classes and programs available to high school students, and under the State concurrent enrollment guidelines, the tuition is paid by the students' school district. **It is possible for a motivated student to graduate from high school and receive a two-year degree at the same time.**

One recent example of a commitment to support high school student success and invest in their future was a donation received from the Katz Family Foundation in Durango. Part of this donation covers some of the cost of a van that transports students between Durango and Cortez. Durango High School students are currently able to take advantage of some of the Career and Technical Education programs available on the West Campus thanks to this generous gesture.





## Interactive Orientation at SCCC-East Fall Semester Kickoff

Southwest Colorado Community College's East Campus kicked off the college semester on August 14 at a new interactive Student Orientation with over 60 students. Students participated in a morning or afternoon session facilitated by staff members where they received in-depth information about how to be successful in college. The four lively presentations covered the topics of Student Success, Academic Advising, Financial Advising, and College Technology. All students were given an opportunity to log in to the new "MyPCC" portal that houses a wealth of tools and information for students. Wells Fargo Bank generously provided snacks for the day. We plan to follow-up with these students to track their success and encourage them to become involved with student government and clubs.



## Alternative Transportation Options Encouraged at SCCC-East

The significant increases in enrollment seen at community colleges across the country often result in one unintended consequence – crowded parking. At the SCCC East Campus, staff and students are brainstorming and cooperating to help improve the daily parking crunch. For example, the City of Durango gave PCC a discount on leasing parking spaces in a city lot just across the street from our building. We have leased 19 spaces for staff to use during the day to ease crowding in The Commons lot. The Commons building has installed a wonderful new bike rack that can hold up to 40 bicycles at a time. Given the campus proximity to the River Trail and the Durango Transit Center, many people from our campus community are pitching in to try alternative modes of getting to and from campus. Not only do these efforts help everyone to get to class on time, but they also help to preserve our environment and health!



## Several Academic "Firsts" This Fall

In the Health Professions area, we started a program for high school concurrent enrollment students, called "Pre-Allied Health Academy." The program provides high school students an opportunity to earn college credit, get a taste of the college experience, and begin a flexible pathway into various health professions fields. This fall, several students from Durango High School are participating in First Responder, Nutrition, Medical Terminology, Human Growth and Development, and English Composition courses. During the spring semester, these same students will have an opportunity to specialize in either an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic Certificate or a Nurses' Aide Certificate. After completing high school, these students will be well on their way toward admission requirements into longer health degree programs, such as

*Another "first" in our health programs is the offering of the second year of Radiologic Technology program. We will see our area's first graduates from this program in May 2011.*

Nursing, Radiologic Technology, Respiratory Care, or Paramedic.

Given our significant enrollment growth over the last few years, we have been searching for additional spaces to offer classes to our students. After some very productive conversations with officials from Fort Lewis College, we are pleased to announce that our SCCC Chemistry and Calculus students will be benefitting from the wonderful facilities on the Fort Lewis Campus this fall. We plan to increase the number of classes at this alternate location for the spring semester.





*PCC's Economic & Workforce Development Division trains Vestas employees like Neil "Shane" Williams, pictured here preparing to use the sub-arc welding machine.*

### **Economic & Workforce Development Division**

at Pueblo Community College

# PCC Helps Local Industry Remain Competitive in Global Economy

The Economic & Workforce Development Division at Pueblo Community College is dedicated to supporting the region's business and industry employers with customized training programs. The dynamic needs in the workplace call for continuing education and skill upgrades for employees so that companies may remain competitive in a global economy. Offering over 150 topics, that in many cases can be tailored to a company's needs, Pueblo Community College is working to address the current and emerging challenges employers face in the area of Workforce Development.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the division trained over 2,600 people (duplicated head count) in a wide array of topics. It is anticipated that during the current academic year, the division will serve at least this many individuals or slightly more.

Recently, the division has been focusing on the unique training program needs for the estimated 450 employees for Vestas Wind Systems. Pueblo Community College's ability to provide customized training and schedule flexibility met the international company's needs. To assist in the training, Vestas shipped a 5,000 pound sub-arc welding machine and its components to PCC, which are now set up in the two-story high south bay of the Gorsich Advanced Technology Center.

Vestas Wind Systems has a high demand for training for its employees to produce the towers for the wind turbines, and PCC's dedicated team ensures that training stays on course to meet those demands.

## **PCC Conference & Event Services**

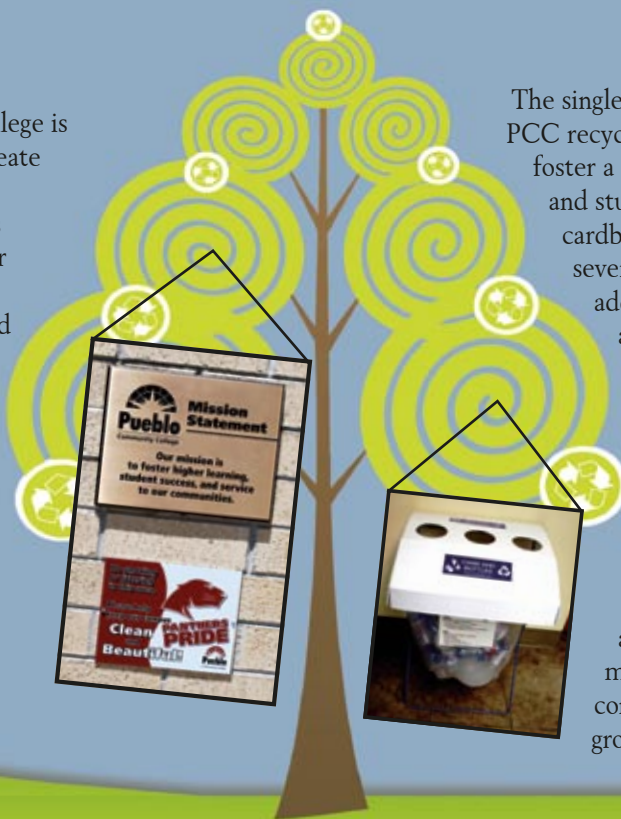
*An Affair to Remember*  
Catering by Executive Chef Gus Bootle

- Business Meetings • Seminars • Trainings
- Proms/Formal Dances • Dinners • Weddings & Receptions
- Fundraisers • Conferences

To book your next event, contact our Event Planner  
719-549-3074 • [eventplanner@pueblocc.edu](mailto:eventplanner@pueblocc.edu)  
900 W. Orman Avenue • Pueblo, CO 81004



Pueblo Community College is certainly doing its part to create an environmentally friendly world. The latest example is the installation of co-mingler recycling bins on its Pueblo campus. PCC employees and students are now able to recycle aluminum, glass, tin and plastic containers all in one bin. Other outdoor recycling bins are designated for cardboard, newspapers, magazines and other paper products, including junk mail.



The single stream bins are the latest in a major PCC recycling program that began in 2006 to foster a “go green” culture among employees and students by installing separate paper, cardboard, and plastic recycling bins at several outdoor campus locations. In addition, it also placed paper, tin and aluminum, and glass and plastic recycling “pods” inside every building on campus.

Other environmentally friendly PCC initiatives include going to the use of “green” cleaning products by its housekeeping staff, organic fertilizers, and fluorescent lighting with sensors to turn them on and off. PCC also is adding paper towels and toilet paper made from recycled material, and it continues to use electric golf carts for its grounds crew to use on campus.

## PCC “Going Green” In A Big Way



*“The Little House” works as a weatherization training lab.*

## Weatherization Technician Training at PCC

Dr. David Cockrell, Dean of Business & Technology, announced that Pueblo Community College will offer weatherization certificate programs through a nearly \$1 million U.S. Department of Energy grant that was announced recently by the Colorado Governor’s Energy Office (GEO). The goal of the program is to augment the Colorado Governor’s Energy Office’s existing

weatherization training program in a manner that expands regional training infrastructure, cultivates a local workforce and sets a standard for residential energy efficiency training in the state of Colorado.

The GEO Weatherization training philosophy is to ensure students meet the rigorous requirements of the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program, while developing the analytical thinking and technical skills to apply the most appropriate procedure in each situation, returning the greatest energy savings while protecting the health and safety of clients.

In concert with Saturn Resources Management, Inc., the GEO Weatherization program is developing eight certificates for weatherization, compatible with the nationally recognized Building Performance Institute certification system and 100 percent aligned with the DOE core competencies. PCC and Red Rocks Community College will partner with the GEO in delivering the certificates. Each course will consist of training through a combination of online, classroom, and field instruction. In order to become certified, a student must pass both the online and proctored field test. The courses are targeted to begin at PCC in June 2011.



*Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Lab Training*

*for more information...*

Contact David Cockrell at  
719-549-3362.



## PCC Welcomes

If you notice Pueblo Community College (PCC) students walking around in gray t-shirts with a black, blue, red and white emblem on their sleeves, you have just spotted an AmeriCorps member. PCC was awarded a grant through the Governor's Commission on Community Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service to start a new AmeriCorps program.

Through AmeriCorps, PCC students have the opportunity to serve their communities and country while getting valuable hands-on work experience and leadership training. Twenty-six PCC AmeriCorps members are now serving in non-profit agencies throughout the community providing educational opportunities that are designed to help break the cycle of poverty. Members are committed to a year of service, paid a small living stipend and receive an educational award.

PCC's students are currently serving through literacy programs, social services, youth programming and other opportunities. They will also be completing twenty-four community service projects in the coming months and are looking for volunteers interested in making a difference in the community.

# AmeriCorps

*Michelle Von Fange* will be serving as the new AmeriCorps Director. Michelle started her own career as an AmeriCorps member and served as a state AmeriCorps trainer and director. Announcements about AmeriCorps community service projects and opportunities to volunteer the coming year will be posted on the PCC website and in *FYI NEWS*.



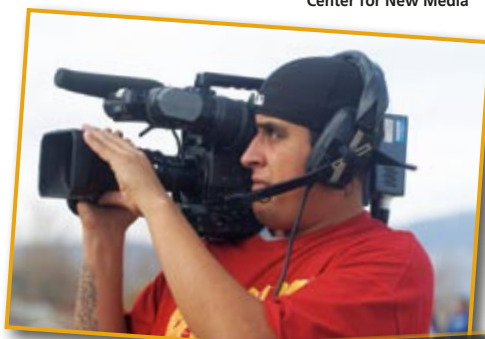
*for more information...*

Contact Michelle Von Fange  
at 719-549-3175.

## CNM Students Get Real-World Experience



*Whether operating cameras at numerous events or juggling multiple screens in its mobile van studio, PCC's Center for New Media students gain a wide variety of useful skills on top-of-line equipment that prepares them to enter the workforce.*



Whether they are covering high school football games, political forums, the Colorado State Fair Parade or the National Junior College World Series, students enrolled in the Broadcasting and Production Technology program at Pueblo Community College are getting exceptional real-world experience. That experience gives them an advantage when they have completed their studies and enter the job market.

Operating under the name Center for New Media (CNM), broadcast productions are enabling students to learn on the best equipment, such as the three new high-definition cameras that were recently added to the department. They also get experience with robotic cameras by covering Pueblo City Council meetings, and gain additional skills from working with non-linear editors. It all adds up to Broadcasting students having the ability to develop complete production packages that also fit the reality of today's Internet world as well as high-quality program and promotional videos.

Soon, students will have a new high-technology home base on the Pueblo campus. A \$776,000 upgrade to the program's facility in the Medical Arts & Technology Building will provide the environment and in-house studio needed to maximize student learning and enhance their management of four public television stations. Work recently began on the project and is expected to be completed in February 2011.



# Fremont Campus Capital Campaign

## Celebrating Silver, **Going for the Gold** Campaign Reaches **25% of Goal**

The capital campaign aimed at financing the much-needed expansion of Pueblo Community College's Fremont Campus is already more than one-fourth of the way toward its goal of raising \$2 million, since the official kick-off of the campaign last March. The campaign's steering committee noted that it has received donations and pledges worth \$526,192.

In addition to committee members' weekly efforts in raising private donations, the committee is also developing a series of fund-raising activities over the next two years. Two recent events included a private gathering at the Gibson Mansion in Canon City and a Disc Golf Tournament at the Fremont Campus.

***"We really need the community's help to expand our building so we can continue providing high-quality, accessible programs to our growing number of students," said Pierceall Herman.***

"I am so thankful for the tremendous support we have already received from our community in such a short time," said Jennifer Pierceall Herman, Dean of the Fremont Campus. "The campaign just began, and already we have had so many generous donations, pledges, and in-kind services for our fundraising events."



*Disc Golf Tournament participant Alan Williams putts on Hole #1 of the Fremont Campus Disc Golf Course, while participants Andrew Leeway and Tuner Ray look on.*

Because the Fremont Campus is operating at near capacity – with close to 820 students enrolled last fall compared to 350 students when the building opened

in fall of 2001 – a master plan for the campus expansion has been in the development stage.

Plans were developed by the original firm that designed the current building (Bennett Wagner & Grody Architects). The college's leaders and advisory council adopted the plans after getting input from students, faculty, staff and community members while giving careful consideration to campus needs and the current state of the economy.

The expansion plan includes: • *A wing addition with 3 lecture classrooms, restrooms, storage for health occupations equipment, 4 faculty offices, and a student and community activity center that can also be used for short-term training* • *The addition of a large lab, art, or science classroom* • *A career technical addition, separated from the main building, containing 2 classrooms* • *A remodel of a large existing classroom to include risers for lecture hall conversion* • *The creation of 5 offices for academic advising and other student services plus an upgrade of a part-time faculty work area.*

The expansion will allow the Fremont Campus to increase its class and program capacity by more than 50% and to offer some courses (such as welding and machining) that it hasn't been able to offer because of facility constraints. The plan, in conjunction with a transition to some online courses, is expected to accommodate both current and near future course, program and service needs. Depending on the time needed to raise the development funds, the expansion could be done in two phases.



*Center of New Media's Associate Producer Donny Ruybal and Marketing Director Erin Hergert interview a Fremont Campus student for a Capital Campaign promotional video.*

***For information on the Fremont Campus, the expansion project, or to make a donation, contact Jennifer Pierceall Herman, Dean of the Fremont Campus at 719-296-6106 or [Jennifer.Herman@pueblocc.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Herman@pueblocc.edu).***



Total Pledge

Amount Paid

☐ Paid in Full

Billing:

☐ Monthly

☐ Quarterly

☐ Annually

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

Email

### PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Fremont Campus Building Fund  
51320 West Highway 50 • Canon City, CO 81212

**Please contact me:**

☐ To charge my credit card

☐ I would like more information about naming opportunities

☐ I want to make a planned gift for the future

The Fremont Campus is an eligible Enterprise Zone project within the Arkansas Valley Enterprise Zone. Contributions of \$250 or more qualify for a state tax credit equal to 25% of the total donation (subject to certain limitations). Donors may take advantage of this credit by making their checks payable to the PCC Foundation-Fremont Campus Building Fund and writing "Enterprise Zone" in the memo line.

# Fire Science Courses at Fremont Campus

One of the goals of the Fremont Campus is to serve as an outreach arm of Pueblo Community College, providing access to higher education to the residents of Fremont and Custer counties. One example of these outreach efforts is the expansion of PCC's Fire Science Technology program. The Fire Science program is serving an immensely diverse population during the Fall 2010 semester – ranging from high school students to volunteer firefighters at the remote Deer Mountain volunteer station in Custer County.

Thanks to the outreach efforts of PCC Fire Science Department Chair Alan Ziff, the College will be providing on-site firefighter training to the Deer Mountain Volunteers this fall. About 10 firefighters will be trained for certification in Firefighter I at the station. The collaborative partnership may expand to include on-site Emergency Medical Technician courses later this year.

Also during the Fall semester, the Fremont Campus will embark on its second semester of providing fire science classes to students at Canon City High School. Through participation in the Concurrent Enrollment Program, students have the opportunity to take an introductory course on fire fighting. Six students earned credit last spring by taking Principles of Emergency Services, Occupational Safety and Health for Fire, and Strategy and Tactics. An even larger number of students are expected to earn the fire science credits this fall.

## New Health Clinic Office Available for Fremont Students

A newly-constructed Health Clinic Office will open its doors to Fremont Campus students during the fall 2010 semester. Last year, limited services such as flu vaccine clinics and immunizations for the health profession students were available to Fremont students through the Health Clinic. This year, the new Health Clinic Office will allow students to have additional medical services.

The office will enable PCC health clinic staff and Dr. Silviano Arguello to provide expanded services to Fremont Campus students. Students enrolled in six or more credits pay a \$21.35 per semester Health Clinic fee, which covers services that include general office visits, physical exams, well-women exams, treatment of minor injuries, immunizations, and written prescriptions. Students enrolled in less than six semester hours may receive services at the clinic for a \$25 office visit fee. All students receive a reduced fee for vaccines, labwork and other testing.

Clinic office hours will be available two days per week during the fall term, according to Fremont Campus Dean Jennifer Pierceall Herman, but availability may be expanded based upon demand.

*for more information...*

Call 719-296-6100

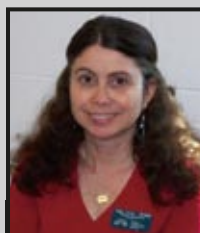
"Lights, camera, action!" is commonly heard in the PCC

Fremont Campus's theater classes or drama club. But now, it is also a common theme for nursing students!

Cathy Coram, the Fremont Campus Nursing Coordinator, created a video recording lab project with the help of Carl Perkins grant dollars to help improve students' mastery of skills. Three nursing bed stations in the Fremont Campus nursing lab are equipped with video cameras and video monitor and DVD recording equipment.

Prior to the implementation of recording project, students were required to perform nursing "skill check-offs" in front of an instructor, who graded them on their one-time performance of the skills assigned that day. The new system creates an opportunity for greater learning by students and for better consistency in grading. Students work with partners to record themselves performing the assigned skills and then view themselves on the recording. They have the opportunity to perform the skills numerous times before they determine that they want to "burn" that skill performance on a DVD to turn in to the faculty for grading. This gives students the opportunity to see and learn from their mistakes and to repeat the skills until they know they are correct. The completed DVDs are viewed and then graded by at least two different faculty members, allowing for consistent grading and increased feedback for students.

## Technology Enhances Fremont Nursing Program



**Cathy Coram**  
Nursing Coordinator





# Fremont Student Life Grows

Student life is flourishing at the Fremont Campus with increased enrollment leading to an increase in student engagement in organizations and activities during the last year. The trend has continued during the fall semester, with the Student Advisory Council "off to an absolutely wonderful start," according to Fremont Student Services Coordinator Marilyn Stodola.

The Student Advisory Council (SAC), the designated student government, recently elected its leadership team for the 2010-2011 academic year: Justin Passero (Associate of Arts), Danielle Filler (Associate of Arts), Michelle Suitors (Nursing), and Joshua Webb (Criminal Justice).

The SAC began planning for many events and activities for the year including a fall food drive, fall highway cleanup, and the Fall Fest on October 27. The group also plans to continue development and improvements to the disc golf course on campus and plans to sponsor many other student-driven community service projects. SAC also sanctions and supports smaller student organizations on campus: Art Club, Nursing Club, Drama Club, and Sports Club continuing this year.

A Games Club is currently being formed with Tim Hoffman, Fremont Math Faculty, as a facilitator. The Drama Club will be collaborating with the Art Club to hold performances during the

Fall and Spring student arts shows. The Sports Club had a busy summer participating as a PCC team on the Canon City Recreation District's co-ed and men's softball leagues.

SAC meets every Wednesday at 3:30 this fall in the Darryl Biggerstaff Learning Resource Center (LRC) at the Fremont Campus. SAC participation and all meetings are open to the entire Fremont Campus student body.



*PCC Fremont Drama Club students perform "Rinse the Blood off my Toga: A Farce in One Short Act" to a full house in the Darryl Biggerstaff LRC during Spring Fling 2010.*

*for more information...*

Contact Student Services Coordinator  
Marilyn Stodola at 719-296-6105

## Rep. Tom Massey Honored During State Board Tour



The State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education made a tour of Southeast Colorado colleges in late September, and the trip included a visit to both the Pueblo and Fremont campuses of Pueblo Community College on Wednesday, September 29. After a quick one-hour stop in Pueblo for a tour of the Dental Hygiene Clinic in the Health Sciences Building, the SBCCOE travelled to the PCC Fremont Campus in Canon City where it recognized Colorado House Representative Tom Massey of Poncha Springs who was selected the Colorado

Community College's Legislator of the Year.

Massey has been a tremendous supporter of higher education issues in the State Legislature for many years while representing Colorado House District 60, which encompasses Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Park, Pueblo and Saguache counties. In fact, the State Board previously named him Legislator of the Year in 2006 and 2007.

The Republican's political platform includes improving the quality and delivery of programs for public education from pre-kindergarten through higher education, and he has always backed his professed words with deeds. In this year's Colorado General Assembly, Massey served on the Education, House Services, and Local Government committees.

PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**Pueblo** Community College

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**Pueblo** Community College  
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Addressing the current and emerging challenges employers face with Workforce Development.

Training over 2600 people in a wide array of topics in the last year alone.

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**Economic & Workforce Development Division**  
at Pueblo Community College

900 W. Orman Ave. GC 201 B,  
Pueblo, CO 81004

**1-866-478-3256**

[www.pueblocc.edu/CommunityOutreach/BusinessDevelopment](http://www.pueblocc.edu/CommunityOutreach/BusinessDevelopment)



# PCC Goes *Wireless*

Pueblo Community College recognizes that technology is centric to today's society and to support every student's experience has implemented wireless access across all campus locations to allow easy access to its networks and the Internet. Within the wireless culture, PCC has rolled out laptop initiatives to increase the quality of the student experience. This initiative will prepare the students for transition to four-year institutions and to the workplace. These programs give students the opportunity to complete assignments and become equipped for learning.

PCC's classrooms are now mobile with laptop carts that support the use of personal laptops in the classroom. The PCC laptop initiatives benefit the student by improving their ability to come to class prepared because the technology is available in their home to complete course objectives. While on campus, students can improve the use of their time because the program allows access to internet-based materials and online learning applications from anywhere on campus.



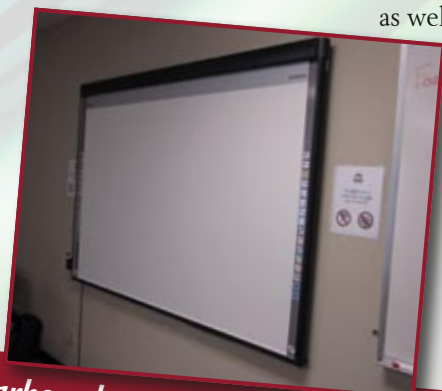
*PCC is selling Hewlett Packard computers, Microsoft Office and many supporting applications to students at prices that are far below the retail market. Students can make these purchases with cash or with their financial aid funds.*

## TECHNO-NEWS

**SCCC East** – The Southwest Colorado Community College East Campus is wired up about being wireless! The start of the fall semester brought a new capability to our students – being able to connect to our network wirelessly through their laptops.

We are also excited about our new Starboard to enhance instructor presentations. A Starboard is a large touch screen monitor at the front of the classroom that comes with special software geared toward providing interactive presentations. Some instructors signed up for training immediately after hearing about it and are using it this fall semester.

Finally, we are pleased that the Information Technology department has upgraded our video conferencing technology. As a branch campus, we rely on video conferencing to connect to our other campuses for both classes and meetings. The improved picture and sound make us feel more connected to our classmates and colleagues. We appreciate PCC's forward-thinking IT department.



*Starboards are improving interactive learning on SCCC campuses.*

**SCCC West** – A new Hitachi Starboard will soon be installed in a classroom in the main building. This state-of-the-art technology has the capability of revolutionizing and energizing current teaching practices; faculty and instructors are lining up to receive training. The Starboard was unveiled to the deans of the Fremont and SCCC West and East Campuses during a recent visit to the Pueblo Campus. After seeing the capabilities of this exciting new technology, all three deans commented that they might want to teach a class again just to get to use this new teaching tool.

In addition, another classroom has been given a "facelift" in preparation for the installation of a new state-of-the-art Polycom system. The work in the classroom included dropping the ceiling and installing acoustic tiles, receiving a fresh coat of paint, as well as new carpet. The Polycom technology (video conferencing) will support and enable students to participate in more distance education classes, which in turn will open up many more opportunities than they have had in the past. Video conferencing has become a valuable tool for education. Vendors have designed the technology to meet specific user needs, from individual desktop systems to completely integrated rooms that truly make users feel "as if they were there" when meeting with distant sites.

These new technological additions will take students one step closer on their journey toward higher education opportunities!





SCCC Deans Dr. Lynn Urban (East Campus) and Shannon South (West Campus) have been instrumental in the increasing enrollment at both branches.



**Southwest  
COLORADO**  
Community College  
A Division of Pueblo Community College

PCC President Patty Erjavec was warmly received at receptions held in her honor this past summer in southwestern Colorado. The East and West campuses of Southwest Colorado Community College and the PCC Foundation hosted the events to give local community members the opportunity to meet President Erjavec, ask questions and voice any concerns they might have. Those attending the receptions were pleased to hear that President Erjavec is committed to serving the increasing number of students attending both SCCC branches. The many and diverse programs and curricula offered at both campuses point to an exciting year with continued growth. "This is a new day, and we are one institution; an institution that happens to serve a 700-mile radius, but one institution that happens to have four branches," remarked President Erjavec.



President Erjavec, Chief David Felice and Captain Micki Browning of the Durango Police Department



State Senator Bruce Whitehead and President Erjavec

## Southwest Colorado Community College Welcomes President Erjavec



Mel Montoya, Jamie Patti, Rick Stanton, and Elizabeth Rose.  
(Student-editors not pictured include Tyler Frederick, Frankie Lopez, and Andy Nickerson.)

## The First *The Final Note*

During the fall semester of 2009, PCC's English and Art departments collaborated to institute an annual art and literary publication, *The Final Note*. The project is an effort to strengthen social and academic interest in quality art and literature and to foster a supportive community of artists and writers. The debut issue featured the poems, stories, photographs, and visual works of art of students, faculty, and staff from all four campuses.

Faculty advisors Dave Edwards, Dave McKean, and Jamie Patti worked with student-editors to gather, evaluate, and organize entries into a thought-provoking and emotionally-charged 80-page journal. With funding from College Assembly, the editorial staff was able to provide complimentary issues to all faculty, staff, and part-time instructors.

The second volume of the publication is currently in development and will be available for sale in early December. The founding collaborators of *The Final Note* hope that it becomes a publication that features the artistic work of many people throughout the communities in the PCC network. *Anyone interested in submitting to The Final Note can do so by email to [thejournal@pueblocc.edu](mailto:thejournal@pueblocc.edu) by October 31st.*

## Secretary of Labor Commends PCC for Excellent Use of Grant

A \$1.9 million job training grant awarded to Pueblo Community College in 2008 brought U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis to the Pueblo campus on July 8 to see just how the federal dollars were being spent to create jobs. She left tremendously impressed with the job opportunities that PCC is providing.

John Vukich, PCC's Dean of Economic Development and Workforce Training, conducted a tour of the four mobile learning labs that were purchased and outfitted with the grant money and he showcased the equipment and curriculum that are being used inside the Gorsich Advanced Technology to train workers for the Vestas Wind Towers plant south of the city. While on the tour, Solis also learned about PCC's OSHA safety initiatives and renewable energy programs.

At the conclusion of the tour, Solis addressed faculty, staff and media, saying how impressed she was with PCC's job training, especially because the training is in areas where the jobs are going to be in the future – renewable energy and safety areas.

Solis was accompanied on the visit by Rep. John Salazar, D-Colo., and Don Mares, executive director of the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

PCC President Patty Erjavec (right) presents U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis with a scale model version of a mobile learning lab.





**Mary Waterman**  
Alumni Association Chair

# ALUMNI

# NEWS

The Alumni Association had quite a successful 2010. Graduation at each of our campuses was a joyful and proud moment as we recognized many students who rose above extraordinary

obstacles that life threw in the way of their educational goals. Our Distinguished Alumni Luncheon was amazing, honoring those graduates who previously did – or currently do – work in their learned profession and have contributed to our community. Pueblo's Holiday Inn and the World Travel agency helped to sponsor our first fundraiser in June – **a Wine Tasting** – and it was a terrific success.

We encourage everyone reading this to remember that we accept Distinguished Alumni nominations all year long, and that you may also self-nominate. Forms may be found

at our PCC website on the Alumni page at [www.pueblocc.edu/aboutus/alumni](http://www.pueblocc.edu/aboutus/alumni), where you may also update your current contact information.

Spring graduation is the time when we recognize students who have persevered through incredible obstacles and despite such hardships have made it to their graduation. Please, nominate anyone who you think might fit into this category, including yourself. Nominations are accepted any time before March of the graduating year.

Volunteering for any of our events can be a wonderful way to contribute to your community, as well as your area community college. Our bylaws state anyone from the community can join the Association, though only PCC alumni have voting privileges and we encourage everyone to come to our meetings and be a part of our events. We are working to making a positive and inspiring difference in our college and our community.

## UPDATES

### 1950s

**Joan N. (Iacabone) Murray** '56 of Northglenn, CO, authored "Creative Cuisine Collection" under her Italian name, Giovannina Murray. She has delighted in preparing these recipes at her own and her friends' homes. This collection reflects her Italian ethnic background and her friends of many nationalities.

**Richard Golenda** '59 of Pueblo was the guest speaker for our first Distinguished Alumni Awards luncheon.

### 1960s



**Larry F. Pisciotta** '62 and his wife, Jean (Collins) '62, of Greenwood Village, CO, started Denver-based Brakes Plus two decades ago. In August 2010, Pisciotta, who has lived in Denver since graduating from college in 1964, visited Pueblo

for his 50th class reunion at Central High School. This year marks the couple's 47th wedding anniversary. Also this summer, Pisciotta is leading a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the family's Denver-based chain of car repair centers. Pisciotta began Brakes Plus with one store in 1990 following a successful career as an owner of Firestone franchise stores in Denver. The chain operates 35 stores in Colorado, including two in Pueblo, 12 in Phoenix, six in Dallas, and one in Wyoming. New stores are opening in Grand Junction, Colorado, and McKinney, Texas. Pisciotta's three sons assist him in the management of the company that employs more than 400 workers. Pisciotta said one of his best decisions was to attend Pueblo Community College

for his first two years of college. "I think that was a great decision on my part. A lot of young students need a place to start and it was a great place to start," said Pisciotta, who went on to graduate from the University of Denver.

**Roger Knudson** '63 of Finlayson, MN, retired in 2000 as Education Director at Minnesota Department of Corrections. He enjoys building furniture, riding bicycles in the US and in Europe, cross-country skiing, reading, traveling, and retirement in general. He and his brothers, Doug and Robert, have established a scholarship in honor of their father, Marvin Knudson, who was the longest serving president of Pueblo Junior College/PCC.

### 1990s

**Jeff Rodriguez** '93 of Commerce City, CO, has helped build custom tour railroad cars for the Great Canadian Train Ride and Colorado Orient Express. He attributes his hard-working traits to two PCC instructors, Leroy Martinez and Emilio Gonzales. He married Jody on July 11, 2009. In May 2010, he graduated with honors and an AAS in Construction Management from Red Rocks Community College where he received membership into Phi Theta Kappa. He also currently teaches at RRCC. He plans to continue his education by seeking a bachelor's degree in Business Management. He volunteers with Goodwill Industries and local high schools where he is preparing to be group leader at the Colorado Construction Career Days.



**Tracy L. Swearingen** '96 of Pueblo was named Officer of the Year. The award ceremony was held in March 2010.



**James D. Defelippo** '97 of Pueblo has become engaged to Alicia Arleen Baca and announce their August 2011 wedding plans.

**Amber Pepin** '99 of Pueblo graduated from the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs in 2001 and is presently the Foundation Coordinator for Pueblo Community Health Center Foundation and a Board member for Susan G. Komen for the Cure. As the Foundation Coordinator, Amber designs and develops marketing materials, brochures, annual reports in addition to preparing grants to sustain and grow the efforts of the center. As a single parent, she is proud that her daughter, Alexandra, 17, is following in her footsteps by earning her Associate's Degree in Business with the Early College program at PCC in August 2010.

## 2000s

**Russ Kauffman** '01 of Valley City, ND, went to University of Colorado-Colorado Springs where he received a BA in Biology. He then transferred to the University of Colorado Health Science Center and obtained a Master's in Physician Assistant Studies. He currently enjoys working in the emergency room. He and his wife recently welcomed their sixth child into their family.



**Christopher Coca** '05 of Pueblo and Lina J. (Sanchez) Coca were married on May 29, 2010.

**Catherine B. Magel** '05 of Pueblo is a model for the art class at PCC, and is really enjoying that aspect of her life. She attends Colorado State University-Pueblo where she studies Mass Communications with an emphasis in Public Relations and Chicano Studies.

**Christopher M. Trujillo** '05 and '08 of Pueblo West, CO, and Leilani Michelle Starkovich '10 have become engaged and announce their fall 2010 wedding plans.

**Ellie S. Eakman** '06 of Pueblo has become engaged to Aaron Carlton and announce their summer 2011 wedding plans.

**Kristi Zordel** '07 of Pueblo has become engaged to C.D. McKinnon and announce their fall 2010 wedding plans.

**Megan N. Musso** '09 of Pueblo and **Steven Paul "Giz" Passig** '09 have become engaged and announce their fall 2011 wedding plans.

**Erica (Atencio) Dwight** '09 of Pueblo and Zakary Dwight were married April 24, 2010.

**Daniel Hernandez** '07 of Pueblo received a BS in social science from CSU-Pueblo and plans to pursue his Master's in counseling. He is currently working as the school supervisor for Abraxas, a treatment center for youth in Canon City, CO. He is thankful for his time at PCC and CSU-P.

**Laura Landon** '09 was certified by The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, moved to Breckenridge, CO, and works for one of the nation's top orthopaedic surgeon practices, Vail•Summit Orthopaedics, where she supports ten ortho-surgeons with x-rays.

**Karyl M. Shawcroft** '09 of Pueblo was hired as the Administrative Assistant of the Admissions Department at PCC in October 2008. She is continuing her education and plans to attend Adams State College in Alamosa to obtain a bachelor's degree.

**Shane Trujillo** '09 of Poughkeepsie, NY, is a sophomore at Vassar College, one of the top 25 colleges in the US where he majors in psychology with an interest in neuropsychology. In his spare time, he sings with an all-male a cappella group and is involved with a student-run theater. He notes his time at PCC was amazing.

**Roger W. Cox** '05 of Rye, CO, enrolled in Franklin University's online Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management program and graduated, Summa Cum Laude, in December 2006. He then received a Master of Science in Higher Education degree from Kaplan University in May 2010. He currently works as a tutor for PCC's Medical Imaging program and as a technologist at Open MRI of Pueblo. "I made my initial decision to attend Pueblo Community College later in life after a chronic medical condition made it impossible for me to continue working in my former career field. Although I had received much training and education through the military and my employers, PCC was my first experience with formal higher education. I was extremely fortunate to have this excellent institution available to me. I received abundant support and encouragement from all of the faculty and staff that I interacted with and gained the valuable knowledge and skills that I needed to excel in the field of medical imaging, as well as for pursuing my ongoing educational goals."

**Alexander Alich** '09 of Berlin, Germany was recently accepted to the Master of Science program at The Open University in London, England, where he will be studying Advancing Healthcare Practice starting fall 2010. He chose to study abroad in order to gain a greater perspective on healthcare practices in Europe and hopes some of what he learns might be able to be applied in the U.S.



**Bill Dagendesh** '08 of Pueblo is now attending CSU-Pueblo where he will graduate May 2011 with a degree in mass communications. He currently enjoys being the editor of CSU-P's "Today" magazine.

## 2010s

**Nancy Bartkowiak** '10 of Aurora, CO, and her husband Bart adopted a son from Poland. They are forming a support group for autistic children.

## In Memoriam

**Theodore V. Barros** '67  
**Susan M. Sabo** '10  
**Carie C. Wisniewski** '05

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