



SEPTEMBER 2024

## Comet Chronicles

### Welcome to the Comet Chronicles

We've streamlined our communications by combining all our previous newsletters into one comprehensive source, The Comet Chronicles.

This new format will bring you all the latest news and highlights from across the college. We hope you enjoy this fresh approach as we continue to share our stories, successes, and opportunities with our community!

And check out our new video update, The Comet Chronicles Newscast, for a bite-sized review of what's happening at CCC!

## September 2024 Video Newsletter

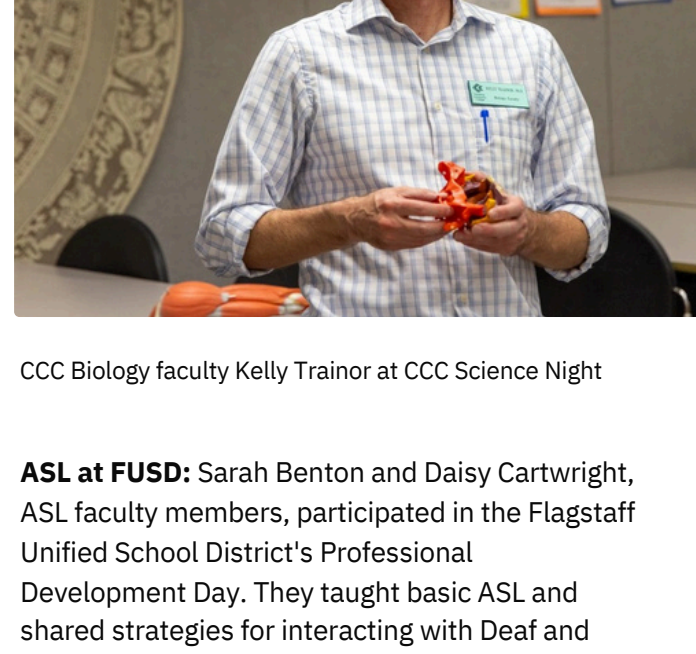


### The Teal Ticket Initiative with United Way

CCC attended the United Way of Northern Arizona breakfast. NAU President Dr. José Luis Cruz Rivera announced NAU's participation in CCC's Teal Ticket initiative.

Graduates of the United Way of Northern Arizona's summer Kindercamp program will receive a Teal Ticket from CCC, covering their tuition at CCC after high school. They'll also receive a Gold Ticket from NAU, to complete their four-year degree for free.

**Page Lake Power Chamber Mixer:** The month kicked off at the Page Center with the Page Lake Powell Chamber Mixer. Dr. Heiser and Board Chair Joey Smith welcomed over 40 guests at The Barnyard as Rich Bowen of Genterra shared updates on the student housing project.



CCC Biology faculty Kelly Trainor at CCC Science Night

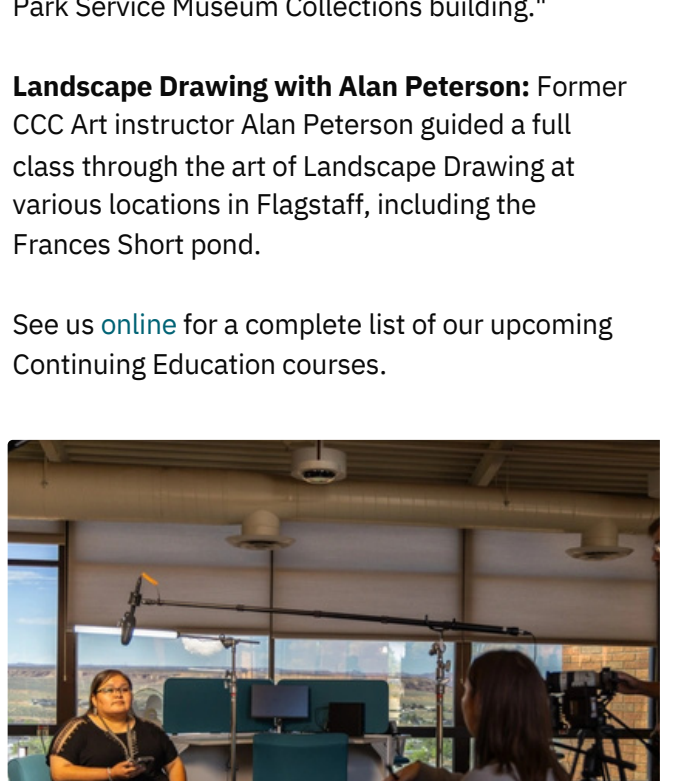
**ASL at FUSD:** Sarah Benton and Daisy Cartwright, ASL faculty members, participated in the Flagstaff Unified School District's Professional Development Day. They taught basic ASL and shared strategies for interacting with Deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

**AHCCCS Scholarship Grant:** The AHCCCS scholarship grant is finishing up. Since Fall 2023, CCC was awarded \$847,000 in scholarships and stipends for students in the ECE, CNA, Medical Assisting and Nursing programs.

**Small Business Development Center:** Three SBDC staff traveled to Atlanta in early September for the annual convening of the Small Business Administration conference.

**NASNTI Award:** SISS Program Coordinator, Brian Francis, is excited to share that CCC has received a \$166,000 NASNTI supplemental award! This funding will support a Career Development position aimed at helping Native students find job opportunities in Coconino County and throughout Native Country.

### Continuing Education

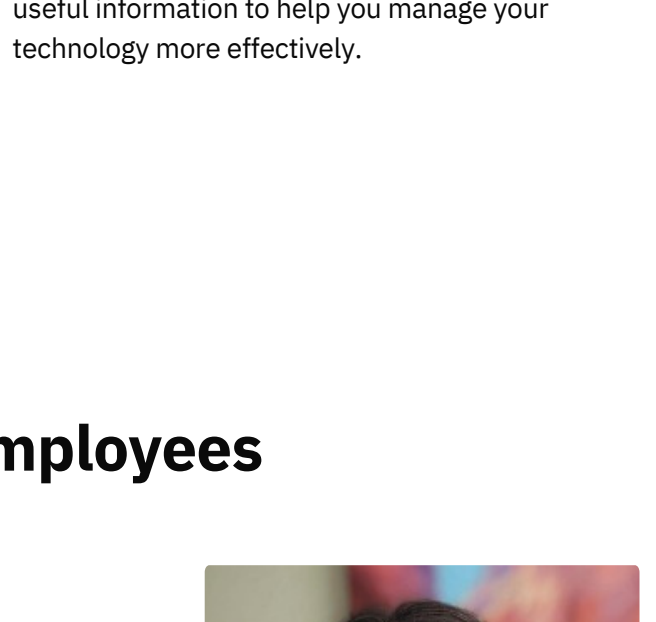


Landscape Drawing at Frances Short Pond

**Comet Talk with Tom Martin:** Tom Martin led the Historical Boat Tour Comet Talk at the Grand Canyon, sharing the fascinating history of 19 different boats with participants at the National Park Service Museum Collections building."

**Landscape Drawing with Alan Peterson:** Former CCC Art instructor Alan Peterson guided a full class through the art of Landscape Drawing at various locations in Flagstaff, including the Frances Short pond.

See us [online](#) for a complete list of our upcoming Continuing Education courses.



Jessica Dodson during her Viewpoint interview at the Page Center

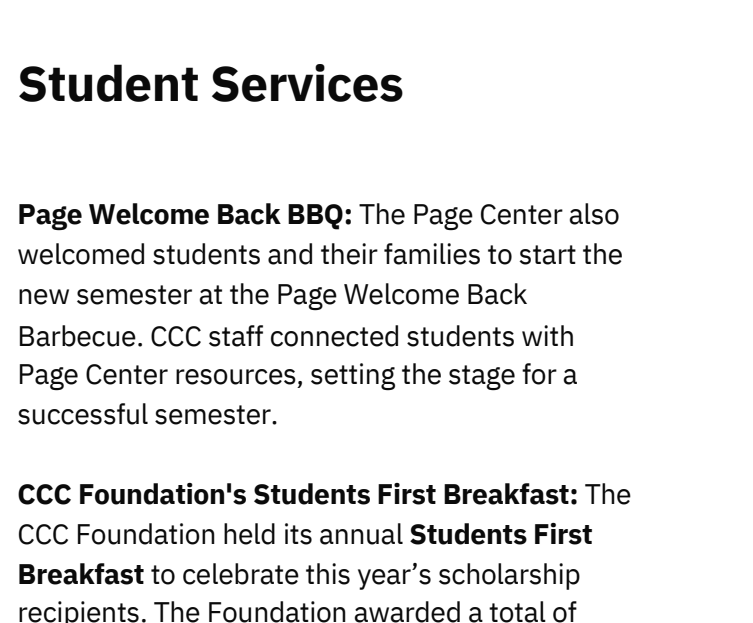
### Marketing and PR

**Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid:** Coconino Community College recently participated in filming an educational segment for the series *Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid*, focusing on "Leaders in the Future of Community and Technical Education." The segment highlights innovative approaches in community and technical education, featuring CCC's role in shaping future leaders through its programs and initiatives. The crew visited all three CCC locations to highlight our role in advancing community and technical education and our amazing faculty, staff, and students.

### ITS

ITS is excited to announce the launch of its new monthly **IT HAPPENS** Update, designed to keep us updated on the latest technology guides, news, tips, and tricks. Each month, ITS will share useful information to help you manage your technology more effectively.

## College News



**Page Welcome Back BBQ:** The Page Center also welcomed students and their families to start the new semester at the Page Welcome Back Barbecue. CCC staff connected students with Page Center resources, setting the stage for a successful semester.

**CCC Foundation's Students First Breakfast:** The CCC Foundation held its annual **Students First Breakfast** to celebrate this year's scholarship recipients. The Foundation awarded a total of \$160,000 to 160 students during the event. The Foundation also recognized the invaluable contribution that donors and community partners make to student success at CCC.

**Constitution Day and National Voter Registration Day:** A big thank you to everyone who joined us for Constitution Day and National Voter Registration Day at CCC this year. The day included lessons on citizenship and the history of the Constitution. Participants also enjoyed a fun trivia game based on the U.S. Citizenship exam. Our committed Comets really showed their skills!

**Coffee (with Coco) & Donuts (with the Dean)** CCC launched a new Student Life event series: Coffee with Coco and Donuts with Dave. Dean David Asencio met with nearly 90 students to create a space for open dialogue, discuss CCC resources, and build meaningful connections with students.



The Student Services crew with students at Coffee with Coco and Donuts with Dave

**Campus Clubs:** The Anthropology Club hosted several activities, including cultural celebrations, educational presentations, and volunteer work, while the IT Games Club offered students a chance to unwind and connect during their Games Night, enjoying friendly competition and plenty of pizza. The ASL Club also hosted its weekly gatherings where students, faculty, and community members can come together to practice their ASL skills.

**Cross Country Team:** CCC's cross-country teams had an outstanding start to their season! Both teams completed at the George Kyte Classic and continued with strong performances at the Embury Riddle Arizona Invitational.

The teams wrapped up with a solid showing at the ACCAC Championships, placing 3rd overall, and securing several individual honors. Cian Davis stood out, earning ACCAC Runner of the Week. For complete results, please visit: <https://coconinocomets.com/>



Lisa Dosckocil and students on field trip to the Hopi mesas.

**Fourth Street Resource Fair:** A small but mighty group went to the Fourth Street Campus to talk about CCC resources available to students on all campuses. Student Life brought pizza, information about student services, and CCC swag to pass out, serving over 80 students.

**TRIO:** TRIO Student Support Services welcomed new students with an engaging and informative student orientation and tutors are hosting one-on-one study skills workshops with TRIO students.

**Tutoring:** Tutoring services began on September 3, 2024. This semester, Tutoring has expanded their embedded tutoring program and introduced academic and personal development workshops for CCC students.



ASL Club meeting weekly to practice their skills

### Human Resources

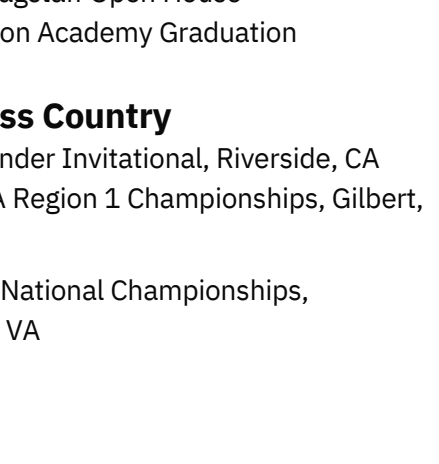
Join us for the **Professional Empowerment** series! These dynamic 30-minute Zoom sessions will help you sharpen essential workplace skills and boost your success. Sessions are held monthly during Comet Hour from 8:30 to 9 a.m., covering topics like communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership. Managers are encouraged to join with their teams, but anyone can attend. Can't make it live? No worries—recordings will be available afterward.

For full session details and Zoom links, visit the HR intranet. We look forward to your participation!

## Welcome to our newest employees

### Jacob Miller - FT English Faculty

Hello, my name is Jacob Miller. Over the past year, I have served the CCC community as PT English Faculty. In my new role as FT English Faculty, I look forward to creating, building, and strengthening relationships across our wonderful community. When not on campus, you might find me cutting geodes at the county fair or hear me on the airwaves with the local amateur radio club. Flagstaff is a place that I am proud to call home. I am excited to work with all of you for many years to come.



### Lastenia Wilkes - Human Resources Specialist

I'm Lastenia Wilkes, the new Human Resources Specialist here at Coconino Community College. I'm thrilled to be part of the team! A bit about me: I graduated from CCC in December 2016, then continued my education at NAU, where I earned a degree in Business Management and an undergraduate certificate in Human Resources Management in December 2019. Before joining CCC, I spent almost seven years in the Human Resources department at North Country HealthCare.

Outside of work, my passion is spending quality time with my family. I also love traveling and catching the latest movies.

### Daniel Broussard - Facilities

I am Daniel Broussard and most of you will know me from my time as a Security Guard here at the college. I have now taken the position as the CCC Health and Safety Coordinator. I previously worked for a community college police department in northern California where I retired as a Police Captain. During my time there I was responsible for all of the emergency preparedness programs and training for both the sworn and civilian staff district wide. Along the way I earned a bachelor's degree in Emergency Services Management.

Since moving to Flagstaff last year, I have been enjoying hiking, mountain biking and motorcycling in the wild areas surrounding town. I have done several hikes in the Grand Canyon, including a rim to river hike. I am working up to a one-day rim to rim hike, hopefully this fall.

## Financial Aid

### Fall 2024 Financial Aid and Grant Distribution Update

**Pell Grants:** \$1,464,275 was disbursed to 541 students.  
**SEOG Grants:** \$72,000 has been awarded to 96 students.

#### Direct Loans:

**Subsidized Direct Loans** amounting to \$200,680 were disbursed to 117 students. **Unsubsidized Direct Loans** were provided to 110 students, with \$227,280 disbursed. **Parent PLUS Loans** were less commonly used, with \$58,729 disbursed to 8 students.

#### Institutional and Workforce Grants:

**CCC Grant:** \$45,319 was awarded to 70 students through the institution's grant program.

**CCC Foundation Grant:** This smaller fund distributed \$21,250 to 34 students.

**Workforce Grant:** A substantial \$313,650 was awarded to 306 students.

Overall, the data reflects a comprehensive financial aid distribution, with federal aid (Pell and Direct Loans) being most students' primary source of support. Institutional and workforce grants also play an essential role in enhancing students' access to education and training in specialized programs.

## Upcoming Events

### WIG

**Oct. 18:** 4DiscX Scoreboard Showcase

### Student Life

**Oct. 14:** CCC HoCo Week Kickoff

**Oct. 15:** Student Appreciation Lunch and CTE team day

**Oct. 16:** Caring for Ourselves: Wellness Wednesday

**Oct. 17:** Creative Comets Within: A Student Showcase

**Oct. 19:** Western Navajo Fair Parade

### Page Center

**Oct. 31 - Nov. 3:** Page Balloon Regatta

**Oct. 17:** Page CDL Open House

### Community Education

**Oct. 15:** Community Ed: AI for Everyone

**Oct. 17:** Community Ed: Grown-Up Grilled Cheese

**Oct. 19:** Community Ed: Stained Glass

### Workforce Development

**Oct. 15:** NPS Resume Building Workshop

**Oct. 19:** CDL Flagstaff Open House

**Nov. 1:** Detention Academy Graduation

### Comets Cross Country

**Oct. 19:** Highlander Invitational, Riverside, CA

**Oct. 25:** NJCAA Region 1 Championships, Gilbert, AZ

**Nov. 9:** NJCAA National Championships, Mechanicsville, VA