

# President's Report October 2023

## **NOTABLE**



**The Page Center hosted a Welcome Back BBQ** in the courtyard between the Page Public Library and the Page Center. Beautiful fall weather, good food, and an introduction to resources available to our students were the highlight of the evening.



The Indigenous Student Association and Miss Navajo Council, Inc. hosted a Promoting the Preservation of Dine Language, Culture, and Traditions event featuring workshops focused on traditional Navajo knowledge, practices, and cultural enrichment.

Participants delved into various facets of traditional Navajo knowledge and practices, fostering a deeper connection to their cultural heritage. This exploration included engaging with traditional medicine and gaining insights into the importance of traditional attire and its cultural significance. Through inter-tribal comparisons, participants uncovered unique practices of other tribes, such as crafting jewelry from bone



or quills. The workshops encouraged personal growth, hands-on learning, and a newfound appreciation for herbal medicine, copper stamping, and the wisdom of Navajo plants.

Cultural enrichment focused on Navajo clans, women in leadership, storytelling, and preserving their language and culture. The complex world of Navajo clans was explored, emphasizing the lifelong learning process related to clan identities. The enlightening Shimá storytelling sessions introduced attendees to new Dine' words and traditions, deepening their connection to the language and culture. Interactive elements, like quizzes, engaged participants in singing and storytelling.

Navajo traditions workshops fostered a deep appreciation for participants' heritage. Participants are eager to pass down teachings to future generations, underlining the crucial role of preserving Navajo traditions. The workshop on stirring sticks received significant acclaim for its informative content, and the creation of hair ties allowed participants to comprehend the craftsmanship involved and distinguish between male and female hair ties. The hands-on experience with tsiiyeel clans was both enjoyable and educational. Engaging stories on doowizhii and ceremonial traditions further enriched participants' understanding. Attendees left with a heightened respect for ceremonial items and an increased dedication to preserving traditional knowledge.

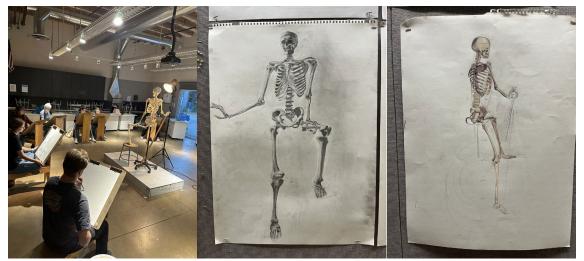
The collective feedback reflects a profound enthusiasm for comprehensively exploring Navajo heritage in future sessions, addressing participants' diverse interests and needs. Additionally, the workshops successfully connected participants with their culture, particularly those who had been away from the reservation. Several attendees found the workshops filled in gaps in their knowledge about Navajo culture, enhancing their overall understanding.



**Community Education programs** this semester have included several engaging, hands-on workshops. Stained Glass and Metalsmithing for Jewelry were both filled and had waiting lists. These workshops benefited from a grant from the Flagstaff Community Foundation that funded the purchase of tools for the students to use in class.

**Approximately 40 community members attended the Community Star Party.** Participants observed the moon, Jupiter, Saturn, star clusters, and the Andromeda galaxy.

**For the third consecutive year,** the Coconino Small Business Development Center has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from Wells Fargo for "Small Business Technical Support". The grant was first made possible during COVID to support businesses as many shifted to, or enhanced, their online presence and reliance on technology.



**Bruce, a long-time anatomy & physiology lab assistant in room 507**, stretched his legs this fall and ambled down to studio 536 to serve as their "live" model in the Life Drawing class. The students greatly appreciated Bruce's patience and volunteerism in sharing his story with them as they explored their creative talents.



**Drawing II students** used some of the Science Department's dissecting microscopes to see and recreate patterns in nature.



**CCC Native American Success Center (NASC)** staff celebrated the Centers first full year in operation at the Lone Tree Campus on Indigenous People's Day, October 9th. The NASC provides a "home away from home" for Native American students at CCC and serves as a cultural center for all students. Students from all walks of life stop by to participate in study skills and cultural workshops. Students also stop by just to pick up a snack in between classes!

In addition to these services, the center also provides academic advising, laptop and book lending, peer mentoring, and tutoring services. The same services are also provided at the Page Center Native American Success Center. Students from the Page Indigenous Comet Club served fresh, hot, steaming fry bread in the sculpture garden while the Flagstaff NASC peer mentors served a yummy cake to celebrate the NASC's birthday. Approximately 250 pieces of frybread and 200 cake slices were served to starving CCC staff, students, and faculty!



**The Western Navajo Fair Parade** which took place in Tuba City, was a collaborative effort by the Page Indigenous Comet Club, SISS Peer Mentors, and the CCC cross country team. This vibrant event

successfully achieved its dual objective of community outreach and fostering a sense of belonging for prospective students within the Native community. The parade not only shared essential information about educational opportunities but also celebrated the rich heritage of the Western Navajo community. Volunteers distributed informational materials about educational opportunities and support available through CCC. Some attendees were already familiar with Coconino Community College's mission to serve the Native community and appreciated the institution's presence and involvement.



Mistyrose Jensen, a SISS peer mentor, and Fran Tohannie, the CCC Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Student Services, taught a Hallow-beading workshop in the CCC Native American Success Center for staff, students, and faculty. Attendees fashioned a pair of beaded earrings, expressing their creative side. All had fun!

## **PARTNERSHIPS**



**This fall, the Community Career Fair** brought 44 companies to the Lone Tree Campus. The event allows job seekers to connect with employers, share resumes, and collect employer swag. The fair helps

students bridge the gap between job seekers and employers. There were approximately 350 students, community members, and employers in attendance.

A variety of industries participated, engaging with potential candidates. Job seekers had the opportunity to learn more about different companies, ask questions, and participate in on-site interviews. The energy in the room was palpable, with many attendees walking away feeling optimistic about their job prospects.

The Page Center had the fourth CDL training this year. One houseboat company sent three of their employees. The Phoenix Truck Driving School committed to offering at least one class each quarter in the Page area.

**The Flagstaff CDL training is going strong,** with several new students starting each Monday. FY23 brought in just over 150 students, who completed their training and earned their CDL Class A license.

#### **EVENTS**

Events for the College included:

- Dinner and a Movie: McFarland, USA ALAS Scholarship Fundraiser
- CCC Career Fair
- Community Education: Crochet
- Community Education: Metalsmithing for Jewelry
- Community Education: Community Star Party
- Native American Success Center Open House
- Indigenous People's Day Frybread Sale
- Comet Talk: Brave the Wild River
- Pop Up with the President: Fourth Street
- Pop Up with the President: Lone Tree
- PTK Blood Drive
- Comet Talk: The Utah War of 1857
- Western Navajo Fair Parade
- Detention Officer Graduation
- Preserving Dine Language, Culture, and Traditions
- Lowe's Foundation Swing for Charity Event
- Lowe's Foundation at the Fourth Street Campus

## **EARNED MEDIA**

 10/03/2023 Coconino Community College holds investiture ceremony for President Eric Heiser <a href="https://azdailysun.com/news/local/education/coconino-community-college-holds-investiture-ceremony-for-president-eric-heiser/article-9e5e5482-6153-11ee-ba5f-038a802db26c.html">https://azdailysun.com/news/local/education/coconino-community-college-holds-investiture-ceremony-for-president-eric-heiser/article-9e5e5482-6153-11ee-ba5f-038a802db26c.html</a>

### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT MEETINGS OF INTEREST

10/02-05/2023	CBExchange Conference
10/03/2023	DOL Strengthening CCC Grant Call

10/04/2023	AC4 Director Interview
10/09-12/2023	ACCT Las Vegas
10/10/2023	CCC/NAU Presentation A++ at ACCT
10/11/2023	ATD/ACCT Data Meeting
10/11/2023	Digital Learning Focus Group
10/13/2023	EAB Welcome Call
10/13/2023	C-BEN Board Meeting
10/16/2023	1:1 Adriana
10/16/2023	EAB Leadership Meeting
10/16/2023	Grant Opportunity Discussion
10/16/2023	Purina/CCC Discussion
10/16/2023	President's Cabinet Budget Preparation Meeting
10/17/2023	1:1 Tony
10/17/2023	Vice President Kamala Harris Visit at NAU
10/17/2023	1:1 Eric Eikenberry
10/17/2023	1:1 Kelly
10/18/2023	Pop Up with the President Fourth Street
10/18/2023	OCR Discussion
10/18/2023	Public Affairs Discussion
10/18/2023	1:1 Faculty Senate President
10/18/2023	1:1 Joey Smith
10/18/2023	DGB Work Session and Regular Meeting
10/19/2023	4DX Next Steps
10/19/2023	Pop Up with the President Lone Tree
10/19/2023	NARBHA Jon Perez Meeting
10/19/2023	NALA Meeting
10/19/2023	Pop Up with the President Page
10/19/2023	Page Housing Discussions in Page
10/23-25/2023	AC4 – Yuma
10/23/2023	Lowe's Foundation Event – Scottsdale
10/26/2023	Made HR Welcome Video
10/26/2023	CCC Observatory Discussion
10/26/2023	President's Cabinet Strategy Session
10/26/2023	Marketing Team Meeting
10/27/2023	1:1 Kelly
10/27/2023	1:1 Patrick Hurley
10/27/2023	1:1 Staff Council Chair
10/30/2023	PACE Meeting
10/30/2023	1:1 Tony
10/30/2023	College Vehicle Discussion
10/30/2023	FY24-25 Budget Kick Off
10/31/2023	AC4 Director Interviews

# **Upcoming Travel:**

11/01/2023 AC4 Phoenix 11/13-15/2023 HERDI Advisory Board Meeting