



In This Issue

[Commencement 2016](#)

[Nursing Pinning](#)

[Student Awards Ceremony](#)

[Page Student Awards Ceremony](#)

[Dr. Smith Holds Forums](#)

[Nursing Program Reapproval](#)

[A Sister's Promise](#)

[Butler Overcomes Fear](#)

[Two Teachers' Impact](#)

[2016 Retirements](#)

[Student Art Show](#)

[PTK Voter Registration](#)

[Wellness Committee updates](#)

Humanity, diversity focus of 2016 Commencement



CCC 2016 graduates and faculty prepare for Commencement Friday, May 13, at the Lone Tree Campus.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Dressed in cap and gown, Marilyn Tsinajinnie stood at the podium and looked out at more than 120 of her fellow students.

"Life is a wonderful journey full of opportunity," she said. "Through perseverance and dedication, you can achieve a desired goal by the choices you make each day. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, 'The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.'"

More than 600 family and friends helped celebrate Coconino Community College's 2016 Commencement on Friday, May 13 at the Lone Tree Campus.

CCC President Colleen A. Smith, Ph.D., opened the proceedings with a heartfelt welcome to the new graduates. Then, Full-Time Faculty of the Year Sandra Dihlmann Lunday and Part-Time Faculty of the Year Elaine Dillingham gave the graduates messages of inspiration for the next leg of their journey through life.

During Dihlmann's speech, she told the graduates, "Education, in whatever form it takes, allows us to see not the single, narrow pathway, but the multitude of branching paths, the diverse opportunities, and the many, many people and backgrounds and points of view that make up our larger world. A good education challenges us not only to see this diversity, but to accept ourselves as part of it. As strongly as you feel about your ideas, others feel equally passionate. And, it is your job to do the research, find solutions and accept



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations in Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

that progress comes at a price. Don't believe in the notion that anything is free."

Dillingham told the students that two things are required to make art - technical skill and creativity. The graduates have the technical skill now.

"But the other half of art, the creativity, is yours uniquely," Dillingham said. "Your imagination, your inventiveness, your wit, your heritage, and your one-of-a-kind life experiences qualify you, uniquely, to use your technical skill to create."

And it is in the composition of the graduates' lives - the big picture - where the art will happen.

When it was Tsinajinnie's moment to shine as one of two student speakers, she said to the graduates: "So, as you move forward in life with your mind prepared and your skills tuned, I urge you to set your direction with a positive attitude and strong spirit. We have now built a strong foundation for the future through our education. Now, we must individually design and build our lives through this success."

The other student speaker, Kiril Kirkov, said, "I don't want to change the world, but I do want to make a difference on a scale that is possible for me to achieve - something I encourage all of you to do. I would like to thank Coconino Community College for helping me find the path to begin my journey on making that difference."

He concluded his remarks by saying, "To all of you, I ask you to embrace your home, wherever you find it, and remember that we find our humanity in the warm arms of diversity."

Joseph Donaldson, President of the CCC Foundation made a presentation to the new alumni, and Dr. Pauline Entin, NAU's Vice Provost for Academic Affairs offered congratulations from NAU.

President Smith then presented the Class of 2016 with degrees assisted by Patricia Garcia, Chair of the CCC District Governing Board.

Nursing students take oath to help others



MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

People
Quality
Ethics
Community
Respect
Sustainability
Learning and
Growth

Find Us On



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC



CCC Nursing students take Nightingale pledge Thursday, May 12, at the CCC Lone Tree Campus.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - They both want to work at Flagstaff Medical Center.

"I love Flagstaff," said Trisha Zumwalt. "And I would love to stay here and be able to contribute back to the community."

Ryan Wolfinger agreed and said, "Flagstaff is my home."

Zumwalt and Wolfinger were among 17 Coconino Community College Nursing students who took the Florence Nightingale Pledge in front of more than 200 family and friends Thursday, May 12 at the CCC Lone Tree Campus.

"Overall, it's been a great experience," Zumwalt said of going through the two-year Nursing program at CCC. She added that although the program switched directors in the middle of her studies, the experience helped prepare her for the real world.

Wolfinger said that the change in directors caused some scheduling challenges, but the process pulled the whole cohort together as a group.

"It makes this graduation that much sweeter for everybody," Wolfinger said.

Zumwalt said that her desire to be a nurse started with a few "genuine experiences" she had with nurses in her own life.

"It really brought my attention to how caring people can be," Zumwalt added. It's a hard job filled with people of compassion who are there for patients and their families on what is very often the worst day of a person's life.

Wolfinger graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in Forestry. He spent time as a wildland firefighter before deciding to apply to the CCC Nursing program. As a firefighter, he found that as the seasons passed, his enthusiasm waned. He had taken an EMT class and got a job with Guardian Medical Transport.

"Being a paramedic interested me, but it lacked the substance of getting to know the patients and their families," Wolfinger said. "It's one of the coolest things - walking with patients through some of their most difficult moments in their lives."

Zumwalt added that it's an awesome experience to see people get better from those difficult moments.

"We went into the profession knowing it would be challenging," Zumwalt said. "But at the end of the day, when that patient's family says, 'Thank you,' it means more - to be able to be of service and help somebody else. It keeps me going."

During the ceremony Thursday, the keynote speaker was CCC President Colleen A. Smith, Ph.D. The presentation of the pins was conducted by Lori Edwards, Director of Nursing and Allied Health; and Nursing faculty members Sandra Marques, MSN, RN, and Tammy Woods, MSN, RN. All 17 of the students lit candles and took the Florence Nightingale Pledge.

The pledge states: "I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly: To pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully; I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug; I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling; with loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care."

met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

More than 60 recognized at CCC 2016 academic achievement ceremony



CCC President, Dr. Colleen Smith, congratulates veteran recipients of the 2016 academic achievement awards.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - One graduate wants to become a nurse. Another says he's going into law. A third loves psychology and anthropology.

All three students excelled at their studies at Coconino Community College, and "student achievement" was the phrase of the day Wednesday, May 11, at the Lone Tree Campus in Flagstaff. More than 150 students and their families attended the annual Student Awards Ceremony. Better than 60 CCC students were recognized for their academic achievement during the 2016 school year.

"I'm truly honored, and I don't feel I've done any more than anyone else," said Rachel Soumokil, who graduated with an associate's degree in Pre-health Careers. She also featured prominently in CCC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. "It's been an honor to serve, and I've enjoyed my time at CCC very much."

Next, she's off to Northern Arizona University. She's currently on the alternate list for the Nursing program there. In the meantime, she will be taking courses of interest and make additional points to qualify for the Nursing program. Her goal is to get a bachelor's degree in Nursing.

Soumokil was honored at the ceremony for being selected as a member of the All Arizona Academic Team and for being an Outstanding Member of CCC Clubs and Organizations.

Student veteran Joseph Keifer graduated with an associate's degree in General Studies. A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, he was among nearly a dozen student veterans honored during the ceremony.

"I'm pretty stoked to finish up and move on," Keifer said, adding that many of his friends in the Marines didn't take advantage of the GI Bill after their service. Keifer, who served as Associated Student Body President last year, wants to be a positive influence on veterans coming back into civilian life to let them know that they, too, can be successful at college.

Of his experience, Keifer said, "It's been good - definitely a great segue to NAU. It acclimated me to college life. I started 10 days after I left the Marine Corps."

He will be studying philosophy, politics and law at NAU.

"After that - law school, but I'm not sure where yet," Keifer said. "I'm shooting for Chicago."

Aleina Murray, a Peer Adviser at CCC, graduated with an associate's in Business. She said she is both excited

MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

People
Quality
Ethics
Community
Respect
Sustainability
Learning and Growth

Find Us On



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about

7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

Aleina Myers, a Peer Advisor at CCC, graduated an associate's in Business. She said she is both excited and scared to leave CCC.

"It's a new beginning, and I have all these emotions," Myers said. "It's a community that's inviting and wants to support you through the obstacles college has."

Her next stop is NAU in the fall. She wants to study psychology and minor in anthropology - subjects which she is passionate about. The transition to a larger institution will be different.

"I'll get used to it," she said with a smile.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

The following students received academic awards: Rikki Payne, Administration of Justice; Tiffany Hernandez, Allied Health Sciences; Kiril Kirkov, Anthropology; David Schatz, Business; Danielle Kelly, Computer Software Technology; Patrick Southerland, Construction Technology; Sarah Adams, English; Tyler Dobbs, Emergency Medical Services & Fire Science; Lenford Barton, Fine Arts; Catherine Jorde, American Sign Language; Jordan Wright, Mathematics; Daniel Rivera, Applied Mathematics; Ryan Wolfinger, Nursing; Aaron Harkins, Psychology; Richard Ramirez, Science; and Tiffany Ekstrand, Sociology.

The following students received All Arizona Academic Team awards: Alexandra Greer and Rachel Soumokil.

The following students received Student of the Year awards: Cynthia Lee, FWS Student of the Year; Marliana Lugo, CCC CAVIAT Student of the Year; Charmaine C. Curley, CCC2NAU Student of the Year; Jason Oberman, Veteran Student of the Year.

The following were honored student veterans: Sarah Armstrong, Walter Bighorse, Lance Gonzales, Joseph Kiefer, Jake Lewis, Jason Oberman, Areon Redshirt, Tashina Rogers, Kevin Semallie, Ian Smith and Patrick Southerland.

The following students were recognized for Successful Transitions & Academic Readiness Training: Cory Bennett, Shontelle Tillotson and Pearl Whitehair.

The following students were recognized for honors in TRiO Student Support Services: Paul Bearchell, Heather Charley, Guibin Chen, Karina Duran Luna, Mercedes Martin, Jennille Montelongo-Rodriguez, Loriann Gigous, Aaron Harkins, Tina Van Der Horst, Carmen Baca, Alana Keith, Maria Abrego-Villannueva, Joshelle Tsinnijinnie, Rachel Vance, Keyani Littlesunday, Bradley Lawry, Marisol Castro Molina, Ciara Scott, Michael Goodell, Makayla Hamilton, Michael McCabe, Stephanie Kerley, Sandra Villalobos and Dharshina Arizona.

The following students were "I Will Succeed" grantees: Fatima Palacios, Joshelle Tsinnijinnie and Jennille Montelongo-Rodriguez.

The following students were recognized as CCC Peer Advisors: Darnell Joseph, Aleina Myers and Katherine Radics.

The following student was recognized as Clubs & Organizations Outstanding Member: Rachel Soumokil.

Students recognized at CCC-Page Awards Night





From left to right: Jim Hunter, Lena Judy, Clarissa Tallman and Judy Franz are all smiles as Tallman receives the Northern Coconino County scholarship on Tuesday, May 17 at the CCC-Page site Student Awards Night.

MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

People
Quality
Ethics

Community
Respect
Sustainability
Learning and
Growth

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

Page, Ariz. - Laughter, tears, cake and ice cream were the order of the evening during the Student Awards Night at the CCC-Page site on Tuesday, May 17.

More than 50 students, faculty and family gathered for the annual event to recognize achievements of Page-based students.

CCC-Page Director Jim Hunter started off the night's events with introductions followed by an impromptu conversation with student Kathryn Kelly, who received two scholarships to attend CCC in the fall. She exemplifies, according to Hunter, tomorrow's leaders, despite her young age of 16.

Kelly explained to the crowd that she had been home schooled and at an early age, and while she was homeschooled, she developed a love of reading. Her educational goals are simple - either act with the Royal Shakespeare Company or become a college English professor. She said she chose CCC because she was not ready to ship off to a four-year university just yet. During her time at CCC, she has been exposed to a variety of cultures and viewpoints, which she called an "amazing experience."

"I didn't expect it to be as enriching as it has been," Kelly said.

Next up was the keynote speaker, Lisa Harris, a CCC alum and owner of the Kaibeto Market in Kaibeto on the Navajo Nation. She graduated from Page High School as valedictorian, chose Arizona State University and graduated *summa cum laude*. She encouraged the young people in high school to take college courses through CCC. Like Kelly, Harris wasn't ready for a four-year university after high school, but she was ready to start. Harris' time at CCC helped her adjust to college life and be successful.

"I firmly believe that personal goals are very important," Harris said, adding that the graduates at the event have shown that they have personal goals and are willing to strive for them.

She held up her diploma from ASU - a sign of thousands of pages of notes and a not-to-small-an-amount of blood, sweat and tears. She encouraged the graduates and students to always be willing to ask for help. She did while she was at CCC.

"They're here for you," Harris said, referring to the CCC faculty and staff. "They're here for you. Everybody here wants to help you succeed."

Faculty member Jane Ward then inducted student Lauren Rose Austin into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society. Hunter, with the help of Math Instructor Kristin Keisling and English Instructor Corey Albert, then presented the seven graduates from Page.

Six students received scholarship recognitions, and Student Services Coordinator Lena Judy, along with American Sign Language help from Angelica Eltsosie, performed the inspirational Native American song, "Go My Son."

Certificates of appreciation were presented to local businesses who helped CCC-Page financially, which included: Gary Yamamoto Custom Baits, HB Tool & Die, Antelope Point Marina, Navajo Generating Station and the Chamber of Commerce at Page-Lake Powell.

Hunter awarded Corey Albert Employee of the Year honors, and Judy awarded Brenda Nelson Volunteer of the Year honors.

CCC President Colleen A. Smith, Ph.D., grateful for the opportunity to share in the evening's event, gave special remarks to the crowd. And before cake and ice cream, Hunter addressed the crowd one last time.

"These students feed my optimism," Hunter said in an emotional closing. "I know leadership qualities when I see them, and it clearly touches me when I see them ... I'm very proud of all of you, and I hope all of you seek the opportunity to lead."

Heartfelt forums to help mold a collaborative future

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually

defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.



CCC President Dr. Colleen Smith held forums at the Lone Tree and Fourth Street campuses and Page Instructional Site during several days in May. She hopes the informational sessions create an effort for more collaboration and engagement by CCC as a whole.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - CCC President Colleen Smith spearheaded forums across the College to share some observations she's made during her first three months.

President Smith gave presentations at the Lone Tree and Fourth Street campuses and at the Page Instructional Site during several days in May.

Her conclusion was that CCC employees do wonderful work, and they should focus their efforts on collaboration and engagement. She outlined some specific challenges CCC faces - namely budget constraints, a low ratio of full-time faculty and a lot of "silos" with challenges in communication among them.

Collaboration makes an underfunded college stronger, Dr. Smith said, and she has seen the commitment of the staff through their creative approaches to do more with less.

"If you have that, you can overcome any other problems," Dr. Smith added.

She spoke about perceptions in the community and the idea that people don't always understand that community colleges are about workforce development and university preparation, and we should not have to choose between the two missions.

"We have a lot of educating to do," Dr. Smith said. "And we need to listen so that we can provide the strongest offerings for the community and meet their educational needs."

Find Us On



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each

taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

strongest offerings for the community and meet their educational needs.

The aim of CCC: To help residents get a job to support themselves and their families, but also the skills to be thoughtful, engaged members of the community and to enrich their lives.

She touched on the advisory committee meetings she has had and the fact that CCC has the highest tuition among the state's community colleges. CCC also has the lowest tax rate, and state funding is dwindling with little hope of that funding returning.

In addition, the Higher Learning Commission is instituting more stringent requirements on faculty credentials, and a survey made of the climate among employees at CCC suggests that austerity measures have affected morale.

So, collaboration and engagement are essential, Dr. Smith said.

"I would ask all of you to be a part of finding solutions," she added.

She also said she would guarantee two things:

1. She will work the very hardest she can for CCC.
2. She will make mistakes, as we all do, but she will learn from them and work hard to find positive solutions.

"It's up to each of us to tell the story of our students," she said.

CCC Nursing Program receives four-year reapproval

Flagstaff, Ariz. - The Coconino Community College Nursing program received a four-year reapproval from the Arizona State Board of Nursing during its regular meeting Friday, March 27, in Phoenix.

Coconino County continues to have a growing need for professionals in a changing medical field environment, and CCC strives to meet the needs in spite of austerity measures that have been implemented to offset state cuts that have been ongoing since 2006.

Dr. Colleen Smith, President of Coconino Community College, said, "We want to commend the Nursing Program for the hard work they have done to earn reapproval. I've had numerous people in the community tell me about experiences they've had with nurses trained by CCC and how important this program is to our community. We are seeking creative ways to partner with our community to continue to provide excellent programs and develop new training."

"The reapproval is due to the hard work that Director Lori Edwards and the faculty have dedicated to the program," said Dr. Monica Baker, Dean of Career and Technical Education at CCC.

In February 2015, CCC hired a new Director of Nursing and Allied Health, Lori Edwards, who worked tirelessly to bring CCC into full compliance with state regulations. Among those efforts were the hiring of two new highly qualified nursing faculty. Edwards also hired a full-time Medical Assistant faculty member and reworked the Certified Medical Assistant program that now allows students to enter at any time and complete in two semesters.

"Our reapproval is a positive indication that we continue to have an outstanding program for our students and our county," Edwards said.

The CCC Nursing program had initially been placed on probation in December 2014 by the State Board of Nursing, citing corrections that needed to be made to be in compliance with the Arizona State Board of Nursing guidelines. The concerns outlined by the Board of Nursing have been remedied.

About the CCC Nursing Program

Student success is the heart and purpose of Coconino Community College. The CCC Nursing Program follows through on that purpose with a curriculum meant to give students the knowledge and the skills they need to enter a variety of jobs in the health care industry. The Nursing Program at CCC began in 2003, and more than 350 students have successfully completed the program and have gone onto nursing careers, many of whom remained in Coconino County after graduation. Several CCC graduates have come back to serve as faculty for the Nursing and Allied Health program. The Coconino Community College Nursing program receives generous grant support from Northern Arizona Healthcare, the Capstone Health Fund and the Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff. For more information about the CCC Nursing and Allied Health program, visit <https://www.coconino.edu/nursing-and-allied-health/nursing-program-information>

MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

People
Quality
Ethics
Community
Respect
Sustainability
Learning and
Growth



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991,

CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500

Student Success: Julie Drinkard's Promise



CCC graduate Julie Drinkard graduated from Northern Arizona University on May 14. She has already landed a job as a social worker for Catholic Charities in Flagstaff and thanks her sister for her success.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Her sister made her promise back in 2008 to at least give college a try.

"So, I promised her," said Julie Drinkard. "That was my last conversation with her. She died four days later."

Drinkard's sister died of complications associated with leukemia. Drinkard had been a bone-marrow donor to her sister, and she was cancer free for a time before she died in 2008.

"I'd never been to college," Drinkard said, adding that she started a family right out of high school and had a good career going for her. "I needed to fulfill the promise."

In 2011, she showed up at Coconino Community College and started off with the basics.

"I absolutely loved it and decided school wasn't so bad," Drinkard said.

Not only did she graduate from CCC in 2014 with an associate's degree in General Studies, she graduated from Northern Arizona University on May 14 with a bachelor's degree in social work. Additionally, she's already found a job in Flagstaff, working to help people find housing.

She works for Catholic Charities, a social service agency that offers assistance to people in need of housing.

"Here I am, giving back," Drinkard said. "All because of my sister."

Before college, Drinkard had a good-paying job for a local Mom & Pop business. She left that job to fulfill her sister's promise. She was full of doubt. She raised three children and has five grandchildren.

"My daughter told me, 'Age is nothing but a number,'" Drinkard said, laughing.

When Drinkard showed up at CCC, she said the staff and faculty made her feel at home right away. She found great mentors in former Dean of Arts and Sciences Ingrid Lee, and English Faculty Jeremy Martin.

"I left that day, and I felt that this was where I was supposed to be," Drinkard added. "I really excelled here."

learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

Find Us On



Join Our Mailing List!

MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

- People
- Quality
- Ethics
- Community
- Respect
- Sustainability
- Learning and Growth

It became my home."

Because she was a first-generation college student, she received tutoring assistance through the TRiO program. She then went into the CCC2NAU program, and her experience with helping her sister gave her the idea that being of service was the direction she wanted to take and focused on a degree in Social Work.

Because she was selected as an All-Arizona Academic Team member, she received a tuition waiver to attend NAU. And now she has a new job.

"I feel so blessed to be able to say here," Drinkard said. "I've been here since 1968. My Mom's still here. To uproot - I wouldn't have been able to."

"It's not about the money for me," Drinkard said of her new job with Catholic Charities. "It's about helping to make a difference in someone else's life. I want to go to bed at night knowing I've made that difference."

Drinkard added that things happen the way they do for a reason. She's not sure what her path would have been if she had tried to go to college straight out of high school, or if she had attended NAU first.

"CCC was just perfect for me," she said.

During the graduation ceremony at NAU, Drinkard's cap featured a photo of her and her sister. Also on the cap, she pasted the words, "As promised, sister."

"She completely changed my life even though she wasn't here anymore," Drinkard said. "I wish she would be here to see it, but I know she'll be with me."

Student Success: Conquered fears



CCC graduate (2015) Danielle Butler stands outside the institution that helped conquer her fears. She is now seeking a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology at Northern Arizona University.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - She grew up on the Navajo Nation and graduated from Tuba City High School in 2010.

With high hopes, Danielle Butler went straight to Arizona State University the next fall.

"My first semester at ASU, I felt very lost on a big campus and didn't know what would be expected of me," she said.

She left after a semester and returned home.

"When I came home, my grandfather would ask me when I would be going back to school," Butler said. "I didn't have an answer."

Growth

Find Us On



Join Our Mailing List!



MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

- People
- Quality
- Ethics
- Community
- Respect
- Sustainability
- Learning and Growth

Find Us On



Join Our Mailing List!

DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in

She was afraid of failing, of not being able to afford tuition, but something in her kept her from losing sight of the importance of an education.

"I wasn't about to give up on myself," Butler said. "My grandfather always told my brother and me how important education is and that learning is a never-ending process."

She didn't want to ask her mother, a single parent, to pay for her education because her mother was already taking care of her 95-year-old grandfather. So, she got a job and enrolled at Coconino Community College because it was close to home and much less expensive.

"It was a little bit frightening," Butler said of her experience of returning to college. "I was a little out of my comfort zone."

She would travel from Tuba City to Flagstaff twice a week to go to class, and she had to take a break with the birth of her daughter, Evelyn.

"I couldn't afford to live in Flagstaff, but with the help of my husband Joshua and family babysitting along with gas money, I couldn't be more blessed," Butler said.

By 2015, she had received her associate's degree in Administration of Justice. She's now seeking a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology at Northern Arizona University.

While at CCC, Butler said she noticed the small classes and the one-on-one conversations students could have with instructors. She saw more Native American students in her classes, which made her more comfortable. And, most importantly, it seemed to her that her instructors were amazingly invested in the achievement of the students.

"It was helpful because I knew exactly what I needed to be doing," Butler said, adding that the resources available at Student Services helped immensely. She credited one faculty member in particular, Linda Barker, for sparking her interest in Sociology.

"She didn't give up on me, and for that, I am very grateful to have had a teacher like her," Butler said. "She is very inspirational to me, and I appreciate her always leaving her office door open for her students."

When Butler graduates from NAU, she is intent on what she wants to do.

"I want to work in probation," Butler said. "Most probably juvenile probation because that's where it all starts - with the youth."

Her mother was a probation officer and now serves as a tribal legal advocate in Tuba City. Butler said she herself was a "troubled" teen. She said that by going into the field, like her mother did, she could share her experiences with teens, and the teens would be able to teach her about their experiences so she can be helpful to others in the future.

There is currently no juvenile probation program in Tuba City, Butler said. There is a jail, but the city has no programs to help teens navigate the criminal justice process. She wants to return to her home to help.

"If we could help them and really understand them without locking them up, that's where I'd like to stand," Butler said.

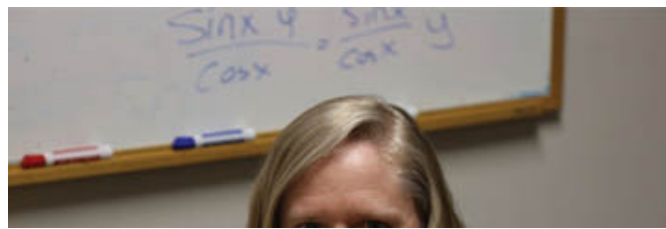
At some point in the future, Butler said that she would like to be able to attend the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at ASU.

Faculty Spotlights

CCC faculty work to make large-scale impact

Flagstaff, Ariz. - These Coconino Community College educators care about students, and they have been selected for new positions to further their impact.

Kathryn Kozak was elected FUSD governing board



annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

Find Us On



MISSION:

As a learning-centered college,

president in January 2016, and Kim Khatibi currently serves as the FUSD governing board clerk and the Coconino County Director for the Arizona School Board Association.

Both Khatibi and Kozak got involved with FUSD governing board because their children attend school in the district and they wanted to ensure they received the best education possible. With their new positions, Khatibi and Kozak feel that they have the chance to make an impact on a larger scale.

"The Arizona School Board Association does a lot of work with legislators, they will go speak to legislators about bills that are going through the house and senate and communicate how they affect what's happening in schools here," Khatibi said. "With the Arizona School Board Association director position, it entails really being that liaison between those boards and communicating the unique needs facing northern Arizona school districts."

Khatibi views her role on the Arizona School Board Association as a way of getting to understand what the different needs of Coconino County schools are and finding what unites them as a district.

"What's exciting about the position is I sit on the board of directors for the Arizona School Board Association and try to help shape the vision of what that association can do for all school boards," Khatibi said.

Before being elected president of the FUSD governing board, Kozak served as clerk, which gave her the opportunity to learn the ins-and-outs of being a board member, before that, she served was heavily involved in parent-teacher organizations at local schools.

As president, however, Kozak has a much closer relationship with the superintendent and plays a much more significant roll in setting the agenda for FUSD and serves as a more influential member of the Flagstaff community.

"I like that I have that connection now and I get to see more of what's happening," Kozak said. "I think I do a good job and I think people appreciate that, so that's fulfilling that I'm helping the school district get through material and understand our roles in certain areas. It feels like I'm making a difference in what's happening in the area and can hear different people's perspectives and I like that."

As a member of the Arizona School Board Association, Khatibi was recently invited to attend the Flagstaff Commission on Excellence in Education. She said offering high school and community college students career and technical education that enables them to graduate with marketable skills, as well as student readiness were big concerns for Coconino County community members.

"Readiness is kind of the big picture goal," Khatibi said. "Where are high school students going after they graduate and are they ready to be there? Are they able to continue on in education? Are they coming in and going to remedial classes? Are they able to persist until graduation? And what can the high schools do to get them ready so that when they do go to college they can transition and stay until they graduate."

Serving as both college-level educators and members of the FUSD governing board allows Kozak and Khatibi to help Coconino County elementary and high school students be more equipped to handle entering a community college environment.

"Those are our students. The ones coming out of FUSD come to us. The changes happening there help us to understand what students are coming here, so that's very helpful," Kozak said. "I definitely feel like I can get a better understanding of what students are coming in with."

-- Melissa Stewart



Kate Kozak (top) and Kim Khatibi strive to make a large scale impact in their positions on the Flagstaff Unified School District governing board as well as other Arizona education boards.

we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

People
Quality
Ethics
Community
Respect
Sustainability
Learning and
Growth

Find Us On



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - More than 40 years combined.

Three people retiring from Coconino Community College this year take with them more than 40 years of experiences and memories.

Purchasing and Auxiliary Services Director Bobby Sedillo retires after nearly 10 years. Allied Health Faculty Doris Beran retires after nearly 10 years. And Science Faculty Bryan Bates retires after 24 years.

Bobby Sedillo

Golf balls, greens and sand traps adorned the cake for Bobby Sedillo in the business office on the afternoon of April 29.

On the cake: "Dear Bobby, now we will always remember you as a quitter!"

Employees from all over the building came to laugh and remember Sedillo and their time together at CCC. Dean of Finance Siri Mullaney tearfully and joyfully offered a host of kind words.

She wrote: "Bobby's job as Director of Purchasing and Auxiliary Services Director is a role that encompasses many areas, including contracting and risk management, and is one that

would be handled by up to four different specialists at larger organizations. He became an expert in all of his areas. Bobby will always be appreciated by CCC for bringing fun to the role of ensuring compliance with CCC and public purchasing guidelines, and for keeping many off CCC's employees out of trouble! He has been a joy to work with and has had a positive impact on people from across the college. He will be missed by many!"

What will he miss most about CCC?

"Of course, I'm going to miss the people," Sedillo said. "The staff I had was incredible, and the leadership was awesome. That's what I'll miss the most."

Sedillo's immediate future includes a lot of golfing ... and all the house projects he's neglected over the years.

Doris Beran

Breakfast and good stories were on the menu for Doris Beran on the morning of Thursday, May 12, at the Fourth Street Campus. More than 30



Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.



Join Our Mailing List!

MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

- People
- Quality
- Ethics
- Community
- Respect
- Sustainability
- Learning and Growth

DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about

people showed up to give her a warm send-off.

Career and Technical Education Dean Monica Baker said she remembered hiring Beran away from the healthcare industry nearly a decade earlier.

"She's probably the kindest, firmest person I know," Baker said. "And she's very supportive in how she does that ... I love you dearly, and I'm so happy at the time we've had together. You've made me a better person."

Beran, who will be moving to Belize with her husband - and they're driving there - also received a print of the Palette to Palette signature art.

What will she miss most about CCC?

She said she is going to miss the environment of learning, her fellow faculty members and, of course, the students.

"The people part of it - that's the best," Beran said. "Because it's the connection with the people that matters. That will always be in my heart."

Bryan Bates

A cake with mountain peaks awaited Bryan Bates when he came into the break room at the Lone Tree Campus on Thursday, May 12.

Dozens of faculty and staff visited and shared memories they had of Bates during his tenure at CCC. His was among the longest at the College; he was one of the first instructors hired after CCC (then CCCC) became a reality in August 1991.

Bates was remembered for his tenacity, his positive attitude, his encouraging words, and for his selflessness on behalf of CCC. Bates embodies the ideal of a good faculty member and a good scientist.

He leaves a lasting legacy of learning in his students. He and his wife started CCC's first scholarship for veterans.

Bates will continue working on the Colorado Plateau and in Alaska, and archaeo-astronomy will continue to be a passion of his. During his retirement party, Bates received a print of the Palette to Palette 2016 signature art.

What will he miss most about CCC?

"The people who work here and the students who come here," Bates said, smiling.

Around CCC

Student art: A display of hard work



Bobby Sedillo (top), Doris Beran (middle), and Bryan Bates (bottom) are thanked by the CCC community for 40 years of memories as they go into well deserved retirements.

7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.



Student art was displayed in the commons area of the CCC Lone Tree campus from April 25 through May 6.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - From April 25 through May 6, there was an exquisite collection of student art on display at the Coconino Community College Lone Tree campus commons.

Ceramics, photographs, paintings and more were exhibited throughout the college to be enjoyed by the community. Clay Hicks, a third year CCC student, had two pieces in the student art show and one piece in the Palette to Palate silent auction.

"It's a cool community to be a part of," said Hicks.

Alan Petersen, fine arts faculty, expressed why CCC has such an event.

"We put on student art exhibits because it's a way to share their (students) work with the rest of the college and the community," said Petersen.

"This was one of the best student art shows we've had in a while," said Petersen.

For students, the art show is a vehicle to show off their hard work and receive constructive criticism from their peers. For everyone else, the art show is a means of inspiration and elegant ambiance.

Petersen emphasized why it is important for to students to share their work on such occasions.

"As soon as you take the work of art out of the studio, it becomes something different," said Petersen.

This exhibit is the next step for students who want to further their career in art. This platform is an invaluable experience to prepare the art students involved for criticism, praise and their future; and judging from their work, the future is bright for these students.

-- Anders Lund

PTK holds voter registration once more



Find Us On



MISSION:

As a learning-centered college, we enrich lives by

embracing diversity and transforming the future through quality education.

CORE VALUES:

People
Quality
Ethics

Community
Respect
Sustainability
Learning and Growth



Shaun McKernan, left, and Tara Bubbico, right, staff a voter registration booth at the CCC Lone Tree campus.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Members of the Coconino Community College Beta Gamma Chi chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society spent the day on April 14, helping students register to vote.

"Due to the exciting election season approaching, I feel it is vital for students to get involved and register," said Shaun McKernan, CCC Special Initiatives Coordinator.

McKernan and Tara Bubbico, PTK member, staffed a booth at the Flagstaff Lone Tree Campus Commons from noon to 3 p.m.

During the session, McKernan said he and Bubbico asked nearly 70 students if they were registered to vote. More than half of them were already registered, and six students took the time to register. Three registered online and three registered with a physical form.

Voter registration forms are available at CCC near the registration office at the Lone Tree Campus. To register to vote online, visit <https://vote.usa.gov>.

Phi Theta Kappa is an honor society for two-year colleges that has more than 2 million members. Students, faculty and community members come together in the spirit of scholarship, leadership, fellowship and service. PTK plans to have another registration drive this upcoming fall semester. Stay tuned for details.

For more information on PTK, visit www.ptk.org.



CCC Wellness Committee updates

Find Us On



DID YOU KNOW?

CCC serves about 7,500 learners annually.

CCC generates \$15.10 for each taxpayer dollar invested.

CCC has invested over \$12 million into Coconino County through educational grants, since 1991.

Economic Impact - \$167 million in annual economic growth.

More than \$10



Members of the CCC Wellness Committee have a bit of fun in creating a photo for the committee.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - CCC hosted the Northern Arizona Public Employee Benefit Trust (NAPEBT) Wellness Award Banquet at the Lone Tree Campus on Thursday, April 28.

At the banquet, CCC won awards for Wellness Committee of the Year and NAFEBT Healthy Employer of the

More than \$10 million in financial aid and scholarships is distributed to CCC students.

When the college was founded in 1991, CCC served 1,000 learners. Today, the college serves 7,500 learners a year!

80% of students surveyed say CCC met their individually defined educational goals.

Filling vital occupations - In Coconino County, CCC graduates make up:

51% of the firefighters

43% of law enforcement officers

42% of registered nurses and paramedics

CCC tuition is less than one-third the cost of the average four-year state university.

Find Us On



Recent honorees include CCC Wellness Committee of the Year and 2011 Faculty Employee of the Year. April Sandoval, Sandra Roberts, and Emily Lizotte were also recognized as Wellness Warriors, and Emily Lizotte won the CCC Wellness Warrior of the Year award. The CCC Wellness Committee also won the most creative Wellness Committee Photo.

It is as a community that we work together to continue to improve our individual and collective health and well-being. Thank you to everyone for having a part in creating a healthy work environment and a special thanks to our college leadership for their support.

Upcoming events from the Wellness Committee: This week is bike to work week. Be sure to log your miles by following this link: <http://flagstaffbiking.org/commute/bike-to-work-week>.

For those employees on our benefit plan, please be sure to enter your points by May 31.

-- Wellness Committee
