



Community College of Denver

President's Report Dr. Marielena P. DeSanctis

August 2022

Transform the Student Experience

- On August 6, 2022, CCD staff, faculty, and their families welcomes new students and their members of their families for a **Summer Social**. CCD has a unique population in that family plays a major role in the decision making of our students lives. Our goal for the Summer Social was to let the families know their student is in good hands and will be set up for success while attending CCD. The event was a huge success complete with food, fun, campus tours, and bi-lingual information sessions.
- **Officially LAUNCHED on August 31, 2022**, and in direct response to industry demand, CCD's cannabis degree programs are now joined by three fully online non-credit certificates in Advanced Manufacturing Agent, Advanced Dispensary Associate, and Advanced Cultivation Technician through our partnership with **Green Flower**. Upon completion of a certificate, students gain access to an employer network Learn more about these certificates on our website at cannabiseducation.ccd.edu.The logo for Green Flower, consisting of a green circular emblem with a stylized leaf inside, followed by the text "GREEN FLOWER" in a bold, green, sans-serif font.
- Launched this Fall | CCD has redesigned its **Early Alert** initiative by focusing on students enrolled in high-enrolled gateway courses and students in danger of becoming "no shows" prior to census. This shift in focus empowers the faculty and instructors to provide direct outreach to their students and allows staff to offer additional support outside of the classroom to those students reported as a no-show.
- CCD has retired centers and successfully kicked off **Pathways** during the Welcome Back events with Student Services, and Academic Affairs co-facilitating sessions with faculty, deans, and some instructors for each of the eight Pathways.The logo for Pathways, featuring a cluster of eight colorful hexagons, each containing a different icon representing various career paths, followed by the text "COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER" in a small, grey, sans-serif font and "PATHWAYS" in a large, bold, grey, sans-serif font.

Transform the Student Experience

- CCD is excited to launch **Momentum Credit** which is a streamlined process for assessing and awarding credit for what students already know (previously known as Prior Learning Assessment). The goal for Momentum Credit is to help students keep the momentum going towards completing their educational goals faster. This new process is being piloted with an emphasis on our military, veteran, and law enforcement students.
<https://www.ccd.edu/momentumcredit>

Transform Our Own Workforce Experience

- On August 15, 2022, CCD hosted faculty, instructors, and staff to kick off the Fall term with a **Welcome Back** conference style event. Attendees heard from the President and Provost about the changes made during the summer, the College's performance towards last year's goals, and the goals and priorities for the new academic year. The College also celebrate ACUE graduates with a pinning ceremony and held a fireside chat with President DeSanctis and Dr. Gillian McKnight-Tutein about Pathways. For the second half of the all-day festivities, attendees met in concurrent sessions for professional development and Pathway Orientation.



Transform Our Own Workforce Experience



- Before Dr. DeSanctis began her presidency, CCD faculty and staff discussed how shared governance at the College had become alphabet soup and difficult to navigate. As a direct response, a **Shared Governance** Transition Team worked diligently to identify our goals for shared governance and plan a path forward. Through this work, the Council on Committee Oversight was formed, and the transition team submitted a proposal to form a Braintrust to replace the alphabet soup of governing groups. During Welcome Back, President DeSanctis announced the open call for CCD employees to participate on the **College's inaugural Braintrust** an idea that was influenced by the book Creativity, Inc. to help organizations think smarter and bring solutions in a shorter amount of time from anyone within the organization regardless of their employment level. The College will begin Braintrust sessions with the President this fall.

Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships

- CCD's Executive Council held a two-half day workshop to kick off our **Moon Shot for Equity** initiative with EAB. The Moon Shot for Equity initiative aims to close the equity gap at two- and four-year institutions by 2030. Participating colleges and universities will work on addressing traditional barriers to entry, including financial aid, enrollment and registration processes, and clear academic pathways to advanced degrees between institutions. The college's participation in this national initiative is just one of many ways CCD is consistently embracing unconventional approaches to tackle educational equity. Over the next year, CCD will also conduct an equity audit and empower work groups to make positive progress toward inclusive student success.
- CCD supported **Access Denver** on August 22 and 23, 2022 for their summer networking event. On the first day of the event, President DeSanctis spoke to senior-level executives new to the Denver metro area about the community college's role in providing a qualified

Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships

and diverse talent pool for the local workforce. On day two, participants were led to the Auraria Campus where they received a tour from Katrina Wert, Executive Director for Workforce and Community Partnerships, and representatives from MSU and UCD.

- CCD is partnering up again with **JFF and Verizon** for its final pilot cohort for the Verizon Reskilling pilot program to provide free online training to help participants develop skills that are in demand in the tech labor market. On September 19, 2022, CCD and Generation USA will host the national re-launch on the Auraria Campus.

Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.

- Through a Department of Defense subaward from UCDenver, CCD is participating in the **Denver Metro Engineering Consortium (DMEC) Cooperative Agreement: Broadening Participation in Community College Transfer Pathways by Building College Capital** is a 3-year renewable grant focused on students who have not had sufficient secondary school preparation required to enter engineering programs. Specifically, students who start their math sequent at college algebra rather than calculus I. Consortium members, in partnership with backbone Growth Sector, will academically prepare UR students for high-wage, high-demand careers in engineering and the defense industry through a five-stage model.
- CCD is a subawardee through the **ESTEEM Grant with UCDenver – Bioengineering** is a 4-year grant in which CCD will assist in identifying potential students interested in pursuing a bioengineering degree from UCDenver each fall semester from FA22-FA25. UCDenver will provide marketing and outreach materials, facilitate workshops for potential students, review and approve applications, and facilitate transfer workshops during the spring term. The program will accept eight qualifying students each year from CCD and those students will receive financial support and participate in the academic/research activities.
- CCD awarded subgrant through Lumina Foundation for **Digital Literacy Supplemental Support Program**. This is a mini grant for \$20k for a one-year project to develop supplemental course materials for digital literacy certifications through Northstar.
- CCD awarded **Auraria Industry 4.0 grant from Office of Economic Development and International Trade's Advanced Industries grant in partnership with MSU and UCD**. The \$135k grant funds leveraging the Internet of Things and networked machine labs to track real time data in dynamic dashboards. It also allows the institutions to leverage this data to create augmented reality experiences in the program. It is intended to serve

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students and employers interested in this technology and trying to hire the skillsets they require.

CCD In the News

- [Colorado program combats health care worker shortage](#)
- [Care Forward Colorado covered by Univision's ColoradoYa](#) (*President DeSanctis interview spoken in Español*)
- [Care Forward Colorado offers free education to aspiring healthcare workers](#)
- [Community College of Denver Announces Partnership with Green Flower to Provide Opportunities in Rapidly Growing Cannabis Industry](#)