



SBCCOE Report – January 2024

Dr. Lance Bolton, President

TRANSFORM THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

22-23 Degrees and Certificates Awarded

In the 22-23 academic year, Pikes Peak State awarded 3,242 degrees and certificates, including 56 BSN degrees, an increase of nearly 200 degrees and certificates from 21-22. In a survey of 22-23 graduating students, 98% reported that their experience at Pikes Peak State prepared them for success in their future endeavors, and 95% rated their overall educational experience as “excellent or good.”

BSU’S Black History Month

The Black Student Union (BSU) has several events planned for Black History month in February. The events include: “Unmasking Negative Branding in Black Cuisine,” “A Vibrant Mosaic of Heritage,” and an open mic night “Unleashing Voices, Verses, and Rhymes.” In addition, the BSU is coordinating a potential visit from Dr. Opal Lee, the “Grandmother of Juneteenth,” for March or April.

LGBTQIA+ Student Club

On Monday, January 22nd, the club hosted its first meeting of the Spring Semester. During this gathering, the members voted to change the group's name to Queer Empowerment and determined events for the rest of the Spring Semester and their participation in the Colorado Springs Pride Festival. Dr. Enrique Romo, Vice President of Student Experience, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, will serve as advisor to the club.

Native American Student Alliance Club

On Wednesday, January 24th, Dr. Romo and Associate Dean Maria De La Cruz rejuvenated the Native American Student Alliance club and held its first informational meeting. The participants identified current needs, ways to get engaged, and highlighted their lived experiences. Further details for the club, such as meeting occurrences and officers, are still to be decided on.

Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Gamma Alpha Chapter

Over the holiday break, PPSC's PTK Chapter participated in the Honors in Action Project. This project incorporates research and community action with the goal of solving real-world challenges. With the completion of this project, PPSC's chapter was awarded the Discover Star and brought the chapter's rating back up to 5 Stars, placing it in the top 4% of the region. The chapter intends to attend the 2024 PTK Catalyst Convention in April.

Vintage Thunderbird Donation



The College received a donation of a 1955 Ford Thunderbird, the first year T-Birds were made. Automotive students will detail the vehicle and the Pikes Peak State College Foundation will auction it. The funds will be used for scholarships for students in the automotive program.

TRANSFORM OUR OWN WORKFORCE EXPERIENCE

New Program in Behavioral Health (BEH)

As part of the Colorado Community College System's efforts to revise the AAS in Behavioral Health, historically offered at Pueblo Community College, Pikes Peak State will offer an AAS in Behavioral Health, a field in high need of skilled workers. Revisions to the pathway have been completed, resulting in stackable advancement opportunities for students. Pikes Peak State's BEH program will be housed at the Downtown Campus and provide a new stream of students for that campus.

REDEFINE OUR VALUE PROPOSITION THROUGH ACCESSIBILITY, AFFORDABILITY, QUALITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Macon Trust Endowment



[Local nonprofit creates scholarship to help students attend trade school \(koa.com\)](https://www.koaa.com)

Franklin Macon, a late Tuskegee Airman from Colorado Springs, had a successful career, served in World War II, and belonged to several non-profit organizations. Before Mr. Macon passed in 2020, he wanted to return the favor to future generations and The Macon Trust was founded. Trustees of the Frank Macon Trades Scholarship Charitable

Trust presented the Pikes Peak State College Foundation with a \$50,000 gift to fund annual scholarships to returning students who are interested in a career in skilled trades.

Tuition Assistance Program

As of January 2024, the College has established an employee Tuition Assistance program, replacing the previous tuition reimbursement program. Eligible employees taking Pikes Peak State classes will no longer have to pay tuition and then await reimbursement. Under the new program, the College will provide tuition and course fees in advance for up to 8 credit hours per semester for all eligible employees. This will make the pursuit of educational and career goals much more accessible for Pikes Peak State employees.

New Commencement Coordinator Appointed

On Monday, January 22nd, Pikes Peak State welcomed Brian Pumilia, the new Commencement Coordinator. Mr. Pumilla will work closely with Dr. Romo to coordinate Pikes Peak's 2024 commencement ceremony.

New Executive Deans Appointed

Dr. Joseph Charleman was appointed as the new Executive Dean of the Health Sciences division, and Joyce Kaplan was appointed as the new Executive Dean of the Science, Engineering and Math division. These appointments represent a significant step in the College's reorganization effort.

Employee Honors:

The following Pikes Peak faculty and staff were honored by their peers:

Faculty of the Year: Billie Jo Giles, English

Instructor of the Year: Carolyn Owen, AAA/Fitness

APT Employee of the Year: Jack Grimm, Advising

Classified Employee of the Year: Parker Burgess, Facilities