



FRCC May 2022 Board Report

Andrew Dorsey

President

Transform the student experience.

FRCC students Adithya Bhaskara and Arianna McCarty have been awarded the prestigious **Boettcher Scholarship** by the Boettcher Foundation. The four-year scholarship includes virtually all expenses to attend the Colorado school of the recipient's choice, including: full tuition, fees, a book allowance and an annual stipend for living



expenses. Adithya is a high school senior who has taken math courses at FRCC's Boulder County Campus. He is planning to double major at CU-Boulder in computer science and mathematics. Arianna is also a concurrent enrollment student at our campus in Longmont—she plans to study chemical and biological engineering in CU Boulder's engineering honors



program. Both worked under the mentorship of mathematics faculty member Kenneth Monks, PhD, to complete undergraduate research projects, which they got to present at the Pikes Peak Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conference. Arianna and Adithya were selected for the scholarship from a pool of nearly 1,600 applicants from around the state. In addition, Dr. Monks was selected for a 2022 Teacher Recognition Award from the Boettcher Foundation. He will receive a \$500 grant, which is to be used for an educational project, activity, professional development or piece of equipment that will benefit his students and school.

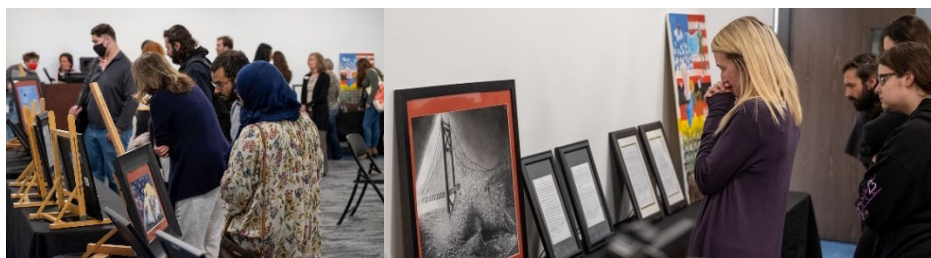
FRCC students won prizes at the **Colorado Space Grant Consortium (COSGC) [Research Symposium](#)** in April at CU-Boulder. Three teams from the college have spent the last year working on their respective projects, and this was an opportunity for them to present their findings and progress in a professional setting to a panel of industry judges. They competed against teams from universities and other community colleges throughout the state. They also got the chance to network with the larger COSGC community and the public. Two of the FRCC teams participated in the DemoSat Challenge, which culminates in the submission of a final paper. The DemoSat team from our Boulder County Campus won the symposium's grand prize. FRCC's Robotics team did a poster presentation—and won their poster session.



In June a team from FRCC will head to the Washington, DC, area to compete in the [Community College Innovation Challenge](#) (CCIC). Led by the American Association of Community Colleges—in partnership with the National Science Foundation—CCIC is a national competition where community college student teams, working with a faculty or administrator mentor, use science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to innovate solutions to real-world problems. The two students—mentored by FRCC computer science faculty member Diane Rhodes—were selected as finalists for their project designing a quick and inexpensive method of cleaning up oil spills. Xavier Cotton and Christian Madrazo will get to attend the Innovation Challenge Boot Camp, which is designed to provide a hands-on learning opportunity for the finalists to further develop their ideas. They'll get to participate in workshops and will receive technical assistance focused on building innovation, entrepreneurship and strategic communication skills.



FRCC's Boulder County Campus recently hosted its annual "**Reconstructing the Past**" event. It's the culmination of a cross-disciplinary collaboration among the women's studies, history and art departments. Student teams from each of these areas work together on projects that consist of visual art pieces and writings inspired by interviews that the students conduct with community members. This year, the teams interviewed women who work in health care. Each project on display during the event captures the joys and hardships that the subjects have experienced during their careers as nurses and doctors. The winners for best project, best paper and best art piece were awarded FRCC scholarships.



FRCC's Boulder County Campus recently held the closing ceremony for its **Latinx Excellence Achievement and Development Scholars** (LEADS) program. Latinx students at the Boulder County Campus apply to join this program, which teaches them how to develop their skills as leaders and introduces them to community mentors who can help them discover their voice as the future of their communities. Students who complete the program also get a \$1,000 scholarship.



As part of FRCC's [career and academic communities](#), student life staff hosted a **multimedia graphic design career panel** in April. The guests were Senior Creative Designer Jodi Taylor from New Belgium Brewing, Graphic Designer Bekah Holden from Old Town Media and Freelance Illustrator Conner Herbison. Students had the opportunity to learn about each guest's creative process, their experiences working in a variety of graphic design settings, and general advice about working in the field.



Transform our own workforce experience.

Business faculty member Chris McGilvray received the [“Making a Difference” award](#) from the Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce. This recognition is presented to an individual who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to support the chamber and, by extension, the Longmont business community. The award is an acknowledgement of the Chris' hard work and dedication to furthering the organization's mission of supporting a thriving local economy.



Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

FRCC has partnered with the [Hispanic Contractors of Colorado](#) to create a new **leadership academy for contractors**. The classes are taught at FRCC's Westminster Campus by our Corporate Solutions facilitators who bring in subject matter experts from the construction industry as guest speakers. FRCC develops the curriculum, hires the instructors, registers the students and manages the class. The college also applied for and received a [Skill Advance](#) job training grant from CCCS, which is funding the development and delivery of 11 business management courses for owners and managers of construction companies. The grant allows participants to be eligible for a tuition reimbursement—or to apply for a scholarship to help pay for the tuition and course fees up front. The City of Fort Collins has also expressed interest in supporting a set of classes at the Larimer Campus starting next fall.

FRCC's registered apprenticeship program with the Colorado Tree Care Sector Partnership has just graduated its first **Arborist apprentices**. After 6,000 hours of on-the-job training—and 450 hours of related classroom learning through FRCC—these four students have now reached [Journeyworker status](#). This three-year apprenticeship program helps employers recruit and develop a highly-skilled workforce in order to grow their businesses. As Journeyworkers, these individuals will now be able to mentor future apprentices to help train the future workforce in the tree care industry. The apprenticeship program is designed to increase employment opportunities and support local businesses and municipalities that need to hire and train arborists. (FRCC also awards [prior learning credit](#) for this apprenticeship that students can apply toward a degree in horticulture.)

The directors FRCC's registered nursing and practical nursing programs recently joined members of the Northern Colorado Health Alliance's health care working group to present and answer questions on the recently passed Senate Bill 22-003, which allows for a new **LPN-to-BSN pathway**. The conversation expanded to include a number of issues related to the education of future nursing and other health professionals. This discussion gave both the workforce leaders and the education leaders a better understanding of the barriers that the other group experiences. This discussion and collaboration will continue as these individuals work to meet the health care workforce needs of Northern Colorado. An initial next step took place that same afternoon when the NoCo Nursing Industry-Education Consortium held its first meeting.

“The Science Guys”—aka Science Chair Steve Garber and Administrative Assistant David Bova—performed a **science ‘magic’ show** for third graders at Shepardson STEM Elementary School in Fort Collins.



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

Our admissions & outreach teams recently hosted a **virtual open house** that drew in almost 100 prospective students and their families. The event featured presentations on topics such as transferring in and out of FRCC, COSI grant opportunities, nursing programs and a panel discussion with current students. Participants could also join breakout rooms to learn more about:

- Each of FRCC's six career & academic communities
- High school programs
- Financial aid and scholarships
- Residency information and questions
- Connecting with staff in Spanish
- Meeting one-on-one with Admissions & Outreach staff to answer more in-depth questions



The outreach team at each campus is now following up with attendees to help them take their next steps for enrollment.

In an effort to encourage current students to sign up for summer and fall classes, FRCC's student life team hosted five **registration parties**. These events offered extra wrap-around support for students who identify as Veterans, LGBTQIA+, parents, first-generation students and/or students of color. An advising representative was on hand to answer questions—and laptops were available for students who were ready to register while at the event.

FRCC's [computer networking, cybersecurity and cloud computing program](#) hosted 25 students from Thompson School District who are taking FRCC computing classes through the district's Career Center. While touring the campus and labs, staff introduced the students to FRCC's computing options—and showed them how the classes they're already taking will count toward our degrees and certificates. Four current FRCC students shared their experiences at the college, and discussed their interests and backgrounds. Three of our instructors discussed their careers and what it takes to get jobs in industry, while sharing their work experiences in:

- Information technology at New Belgium Brewery (a vice president who is also an FRCC alum)
- International digital forensics
- Linux administration at CSU