



President's Report

Dr. Mordecai Brownlee

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Transform the Student Experience



Memorial Scholarship Family Tours Center for Simulation

The family of **Jon-Alec Chervin** visited the Center for Simulation in August to tour the facility where their son trained as an emergency medical technician (EMT). Chervin passed away in November 2018 and his family set up a memorial scholarship at CCA in his honor. During their visit, Jon-Alec's parents, **Lori** and **Brad**, and his sister, **Eliana**, met with CCA staff to learn more about where Jon-Alec studied. His family said he always spoke with enthusiasm about his experiences at CCA and how his education prepared him well for his service as an EMT with Northglenn Ambulance and as a wildland firefighter with the U.S. Department of the Interior. His family created a website, called "[The Jon-Alec Fund](#)," where anyone can donate to further someone's career in the fields of emergency medical services, wildland firefighting, or addiction counseling.

From left: Eliana, Lori, and Brad Chervin visited the Center for Simulation in August.



CCA Hosts Open House

The Center for Recruitment and Orientation hosted an open house on August 6 at the CentreTech campus for potential students to learn more about CCA. More than 325



prospective students and their families attended the event where they could visit department booths, tour the campus, complete an online orientation, or register for classes. Guests enjoyed free food from an Arepas House food truck and live music from a DJ. Students also applied for an \$800 grant and a \$100 book scholarship from the Office of Student Life.

Caption: A group of prospective students tours the CentreTech campus during the CCA Open House.

Transform Our Own Work Experience



CCA Sponsors Aurora Pride Events

The offices of Student Life and Inclusive Excellence, the Colorado Film School, the Center for Recruitment and Orientation, Student Affairs, and the LGBTQIA+ Task Force partnered to sponsor Aurora Pride on August 7 at the Aurora Reservoir. CCA coordinated the volleyball games and answered questions from prospective students.

Colorado Film School, Hicks Named Among Top 50 by Variety

Variety named Colorado Film School (CFS) Faculty **Will Hicks** one of the world's top film instructors. As part of its "[Variety Entertainment Impact Report: Top 50 Film Schools and Instructors From Around the World](#)," Variety profiled Hicks and wrote: "Hicks brings a wealth of insight to his role as Colorado Film School's head of Screenwriting/Producing Program — none more important than facilitating an environment where artists learn and develop the confidence to express themselves authentically." CFS is regularly named one of the top 50 films schools each year in Variety's annual report on education.

Center for Math and English Launches Institute for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

The Center for Math and English launched its Institute for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (formerly known as the Department of Instructional Intervention and Support) July 1. As with the Department of Instructional Intervention and Support, the Institute for Excellence in Teaching and Learning will support faculty and instructor development. The department will expand its professional development offerings this academic year



and invite staff to partner with the department to facilitate various workshops on topics such as equity, inclusion, student centeredness, classroom techniques/strategies, course modalities-HyFlex, effectively using technology in the classrooms, effective online learning environments, assessment, and more.

Center for Adult Education Prepares for Return of Mostly In-Person Classes

CCA's Center for Adult Education will begin a majority return to in-person classes as it launches its 10-week fall term on October 2, with registration beginning in September. The Center, which includes the Community ESL and High School Equivalency/GED programs, will offer on-campus classes weekdays and Saturdays, and a small offering of remote classes weekday mornings and evenings. Throughout CCA's remote period, the Center designed and implemented a Center-driven registration process, which allowed for significant retention of students and enrollment of new students—the Center's concerted efforts prompted its continued success in otherwise trying times. Furthermore, the Center has maintained contact with its student body (receiving an outpouring of interest) and is now poised for an increase in enrollment for on-campus classes in the fall term.

Baral to Serve as Interim Math Chair

Chuda Baral will serve as the Interim Department Chair for the Math Department. Baral joined CCA in 2015 as an instructor and became a full-time faculty member in 2018. Prior to joining CCA, Chuda taught at Aurora Central High School and the Community College of Denver and also worked at Denver Public Schools. Some of his goals as a faculty member are to use Open Educational Resources (OER) to increase student success and minimize student financial burdens. Former Math Chair **Shelly Ray** retired in May.

Redefine Our Value Proposition Through Accessibility, Affordability, Quality, Accountability, Resource Development, and Operational Excellence

Cook Secures Book Deal on Fandom

Sociology Faculty Dr. **Tanya Cook** has secured a book deal with SmartPop publishing, in collaboration with her co-author, **Kaela Joseph**, based on their academic research into fan activism. While her research was already underway, [Cook's Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Community College Faculty Fellowship award in 2019](#) contributed to her scholarship and completion of research for the book. Cook and Joseph are actively writing the book, which they describe as: "The story of how fandom has changed the world for good, and a guide to using the power of fandom to inspire others, organize collective action, and sustain and nurture your own mental health and creativity. Cook and Joseph conducted a multi-year ethnographic study on fan activism. They bring sociological and psychological knowledge to this informative how to." The book is expected to be published in November 2022.

President Brownlee Interviewed by Continuous Learning Institute



CCA President Dr. **Mordecai Brownlee** recently appeared on the Continuous Learning Institute's (CLI) "Student Success Podcast," where he talked about student success, tips for educational leaders, and the power of data. The podcast, produced by CLI founder Dr. Al Solano, has featured educational leaders from across the country.

Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships



CCA Hosts Aurora Economic Development Council

CCA hosted the Aurora Economic Development Council's (AEDC) board of directors meeting August 10 in the Bergren Room on the Lowry campus. President Dr. **Mordecai Brownlee** welcomed the group to the college and was formally appointed to the board, replacing recently retired CCA president Dr. **Betsy Oudenhoven**. The Council's membership includes a wide range of business leaders, public officials, and representatives from education, health care, and other sectors. The AEDC specializes in commercial and industrial development, focusing on attracting, expanding, and retaining primary employers.

Caption: CCA President Dr. **Mordecai Brownlee** (left) shakes hands with **Ryan Simpson**, Chief Executive Officer of The Medical Center of Aurora.



President Brownlee Appears on Mayor Mike Live

Aurora Mayor **Mike Coffman** hosted CCA President Dr. **Mordecai Brownlee** during the mayor's "Mayor Mike Live" program on Aurora TV on August 12. Aurora TV Anchor **Wendy Brockman** moderated and engaged with Brownlee and Coffman and asked questions about CCA and the upcoming semester. The brief segment aired live on Facebook [and a recording is available on Aurora TV](#).



Caption: Aurora Mayor **Mike Coffman** (left) interviews CCA President Dr. **Mordecai Brownlee** during “Mayor Mike Live.”

Disaster Management Institute Hosts Tornado Exercise for Buckley Space Force Base

The Disaster Management Institute (DMI) hosted a full-scale exercise for Buckley Space Force Base on August 11. The base’s 460th Medical Wing and its 140th Wing, a unit of the Colorado Air National Guard, conducted an exercise at the DMI where they responded as if a severe tornado has occurred. During the exercise, the Inspector General’s office and evaluators measured the wings’ response to the simulated incident.