



College Report – September 2021

Patty Erjavec, PhD, *President*

Transform the student experience

Celebration Walk returns – It was a welcome sight on the first day of fall semester classes: hundreds of PCC students lining up for the 12th Celebration Walk, cheered on by faculty and staff. The annual event is a way to recognize and encourage students on each campus as they begin (or continue) their PCC journey. Pictured here are photos from the Fremont (left) and Pueblo walks.



President's Facebook Live session – President Erjavec held a Facebook Live session on Aug. 11 to share information and answer student questions about the upcoming semester. The president began holding periodic Q-and-A opportunities with students in spring 2020 when the pandemic started.

The Flex Five – A [new 90-second video](#) walks students through five steps that will help them be successful when they attend classes remotely through the PCC Flex option. Students are encouraged to log in early, minimize distractions, connect with classmates, engage in class discussions, and utilize campus resources.

Transform our own workforce experience

Fall Kickoff – The 2021 Fall Kickoff brought faculty and staff at all campuses together for the start of the semester. Employees were able to pick up breakfast to eat outside or back in their offices. For some, it was the first time seeing more than a few colleagues at once since March 2020. A pre-recorded program featured a presentation from President Erjavec and recognition of new employees.



Create education without barriers through partnerships

PCC hosts UCSS camp – The University of Colorado-Colorado Springs sponsored the GenCyber cybersecurity camp for middle schoolers on PCC’s Pueblo campus in late July. The four-day camp explored what professionals do in this fast-growing industry. Students learned by playing games, doing hands-on activities, and exploring the ways to ethically hack into a cybersecurity career. They also learned how cybersecurity relates to the ever-growing esports world.



Colorado State Fair collaborations – PCC once again sponsored the Colorado State Fair Fine Arts Show, a beneficial partnership that began in 1995. PCC art students help the fair staff with every facet of the show’s production and get to speak with the judges about their evaluation process.

In another long-standing collaboration, the State Fair Parade was broadcast live on Aug. 28 by PCC’s Center for New Media on Facebook and the local cable access channel. Black Hills Energy sponsored the broadcast.

Raise value standards through excellence & accessibility

HIT program accredited – PCC’s Health Information Management associate degree program, directed by Marianne Horvath, received initial accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education. The program’s next review will be in 2028-29.

PantherFest boosts enrollment – A large team of advisors, instructors and administrators helped make the inaugural PantherFest a success on July 31. More than 200 current and potential students attended and a total of 27 FTE were enrolled during the registration event. Students and their families learned about PCC programs and clubs and enjoyed an afternoon of food, games and music.



Partnership for economic development – Colorado State University-Pueblo and PCC collaborated to create a [video](#) for the Pueblo Economic Development Corp. to highlight the education and training opportunities provided by both schools. PEDCO will use the video as part of its recruitment efforts to bring new businesses to the area.