



COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER



# DR. MARIELENA DESANCTIS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April 2024

## CCD's Voter Action Plan Earns Highest Rating in Campus Democracy Challenge



Community College of Denver has earned ALL IN's Highly Established Action Plan Seal for the 2024 election cycle for developing a nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan that received at least 31.5 of 36 possible points based on the Strengthening American Democracy Action Planning Guide (SADG) Rubric.

[Learn More](https://tinyurl.com/skzt63sp)  
<https://tinyurl.com/skzt63sp>

## CCD's AMC Featured for Supporting High School Students

CCD's very own Chris Luchs was recently featured in an [hrdive.com](https://hrdive.com) article titled, *How the manufacturing industry is working to interest high schoolers*.

As labor constraints continue to plague the U.S. manufacturing industry, many companies and states are turning to high schools to recruit and train future talent. CCD's Advanced Manufacturing Center works with students as young as ninth grade.

[Read the Full Story |](https://tinyurl.com/2s3kr4fz)  
<https://tinyurl.com/2s3kr4fz>

## Dr. DeSanctis Speaks in Support of Student Bill of Rights



Dr. DeSanctis, along with Dr. Paccione, Dr. Poast, and Dr. Pirius, testified before the Senate Education Committee on March 27 in support of SB-24-164. This landmark legislation focuses on enhancing transparency in higher education, ensuring clear cost information for postsecondary programs, timely responses on credit transfers, and streamlined appeals processes for students. The Committee unanimously passed the Bill with friendly amendments and scheduled to be presented at the Senate Chamber on April 2nd.

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# Transform the Student Experience

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## CCD Business Students Sweep GSU-Ciber International Business Case Competition

Students from the Business program at Community College of Denver (CCD) participated in the Georgia State University (GSU) CIBER International Business Case Competition from February 29 through March 1, 2024, in Atlanta, Georgia. Representing CCD were Danny Pippin Mandley, Aysiah Pierce, Jacob Gruenwald, and Lynae Casebeer, alongside Chuck Roy, Business Professor, and Dr. Sheryl Smith, Business Department Chair.

Jacob's team came in third place, earning \$250. Aysiah Pierce's team used humor to 'waddle' into second place, winning \$350. Bringing it home for CCD, Danny Pippin Mandley pushed this team to prepare and earned a sweet first-place win and \$500!

The CIBER (Center for International Business Education & Research) International Business Case Competition is an annual event that challenges students from various minority-serving institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to solve real-world business problems.

The program aims to equip each student with valuable skills and experience in Finance, Accounting, Marketing, and Management & Operations.

CCD's participation as the sole community college in the competition was a remarkable achievement. Their competitors included representatives from seven universities: Alabama State University, Albany State University, California State University, Sacramento, Claflin University, Georgia State University, Howard University, and Oakwood University.



 [This story was originally posted on CityHawk Talk  
http://www.ccd.edu/CCDSweepsCiber](http://www.ccd.edu/CCDSweepsCiber)

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# Transform the Student Experience

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## **Transfer Fair February 2024 Success**

CCD students joined advisors, student support staff, and faculty at the Spring Transfer Fair on February 20th, where they had the opportunity to network with fifteen different transfer schools, participate in workshops, and familiarize themselves with CCD resources, including the Alumni network with CCD Foundation, TRIO SSS, Phi Theta Kappa, and CR Corps.

Notably, the fair saw the presence of five out-of-state schools, marking the highest number to date. Among them was Coppin State, our newest HBCU Partner.

It was truly an awesome day filled with togetherness, enjoyment, and valuable learning experiences for all involved.

## **CCD Safety Discussion**

CCD's Student Government Association (SGA) hosted a roundtable discussion on March 26th to assess CCD's safety information dissemination and collect feedback from students about campus safety.

Attendees were invited to enjoy a free catered dinner while engaging in discussions about campus safety.

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# Transform Our Own Workforce Experience

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## CCD Gathers for Conversation Day

On March 8th, the highly anticipated CCD Conversation Day 2024 took place at the Tivoli Turnhalle.

The event began with a hearty breakfast, setting the stage for a day filled with stimulating discussions and connections.

Attendees were warmly welcomed to the event, setting a tone of inclusivity and engagement. The day's sessions were each followed by Employee Celebrations recognizing and honoring the contributions of individuals within our community.

Participants delved into the "Moon Shot for Equity and CCD" session, engaging in forward-thinking conversations about equity at Community College of Denver.



The event's centerpiece, "Future of Work – Future of CCD," unfolded, offering insights and perspectives on the evolving landscape of work and its implications for CCD.

A well-deserved lunch break, accompanied by Employee Celebrations, provided attendees with an opportunity to recharge and transition to Cherry Creek & Confluence for various breakout sessions, offering a diverse range of pathways for further exploration and dialogue.

Overall, Conversation Day 2024 proved to be a resounding success, fostering connections, sharing insights, and laying the groundwork for future collaborations within our community.

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# Transform Our Own Workforce Experience

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## **CCD Rolls Out Wellness Programming for Employees**

CCD's HR team launched a suite of wellness classes to empower CityHawks with the opportunity to prioritize their health as part of the CCD Workplace Wellness Initiative. Each course is available online and aimed at enhancing various aspects of employees' personal wellness journey.

The courses include foundations in nutrition, strategies for self-care, insights into the unique challenges and rewards of caregiving across generations, and stress management.

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# Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partners

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## CCD Partners with DPS to Train Future Dispatchers

ICCD and Denver Public Schools emergency dispatch program was recently featured by Denver 7.

In partnership with the Community College of Denver, Denver Public Schools has launched an innovative emergency dispatch training program. The program aims to prepare high school students for vital roles in emergency response.

Dr. Ann McCalley from the Community College of Denver underscores the pressing demand for dispatchers, with agencies such as Jeffco 911 reporting 120 job openings in October alone. Stacey Hervey, an instructor involved in the program, emphasizes the career pathway it offers, noting starting salaries ranging from \$55,000 to \$64,000.



Among the program's first participants is Harper Freeman, a senior at South High School, who highlights the significance of being there for individuals in moments of crisis.

Through a comprehensive four-month curriculum at the Career Education Center, students like Freeman engage in classroom instruction, dispatcher shadowing, and lifelike simulations of emergency calls. Upon completion, Freeman and her peers will graduate high school with certification, paving the way for further training at the Community College of Denver and eventual certification as emergency dispatchers.

With a critical shortage of dispatch personnel in the Denver metro area, this partnership program represents a significant step toward meeting the community's urgent need for skilled emergency responders.

 [Catch the Full Segment  
https://tinyurl.com/yc8bavjt](https://tinyurl.com/yc8bavjt)

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# Redefine Our Value Proposition

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## CityHawks Gather at the Alumni Social of the Year

The second Alumni Social of the year was a resounding success. It brought together CCD alumni and their guests for an evening of connection and camaraderie. Held at the Tivoli Brewing Co., the event provided a vibrant atmosphere for alumni to reunite and reminisce.

Attendees enjoyed engaging in conversations with fellow CCD alumni and friends, reflecting on shared experiences, and forging new connections.

The Alumni Social in March built upon the positive momentum from the previous event in October, with a strong turnout demonstrating the enduring bonds within the CCD alumni community.

For those interested in learning more about the CCD Alumni Association or signing up for membership, inquiries could be directed to [Alumni@CCD.edu](mailto:Alumni@CCD.edu).

