



Community College of Denver

President's Report Dr. Marielena P. DeSanctis

February 2023

Transform the Student Experience

- Our **Moon Shot for Equity** initiative is sailing along. We have identified five focus areas for year one which include retention grants, transfer, coordinated care network, academic maps, and pathway experience. We have teams in place to lead us through the work of each focus area including a joint task force comprised of CCD, MSU, and CU focused on improving transfer for our students.
- CCD Foundation launched the **Alumni newsletter** during the Fall term distributing to approximately 3,000 CityHawk graduates. Highlights alumni stories and encourages engagement with college (donating to scholarships, sponsoring a cap and gown for commencement)
- CCD's **Spring Veterinary Vaccine Clinics** relaunched February 1st. The clinic offers vaccines for cats and dogs at \$10 each on the Lowry campus. Aside from the affordable rates to get furry best friends caught up on their vaccines, these clinics are an opportunity for students to gain valuable experience.

Transform Our Own Workforce Experience

- In January we welcomed **Chris Luchs** as our Dean of Instruction overseeing the Business and Manufacturing pathways.
- With a little Pathway shifting, **Dr. Fida Obeidi** is serving as our Dean of Instruction for the Health Science and STEM pathways.
- On January 31, we will be announcing our interim Dean of Instruction for the Social Behavioral Sciences and Public Safety & Legal Services pathways.

- CCD's search for the next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs is underway with interviews taking place throughout the month of February.
- The search for our next Executive Director of the CCD Foundation will wrap up with final interviews on February 3. Final candidates will meet with Foundation Board members, the Executive Council, and get a tour of our main campus.
- Financial Aid and HR offices collaborated to host monthly **'supervisor roundtables'** focused on a given topic. We know that supervisors of student employees have a profound impact on the student experience, and the goal of these meetings is to build a community of skilled, engaged supervisors providing an edifying and developmental student employment experience. Topics covered have included:
 - 'Adding value to the work-study experience – aka, what do you have to offer that \$20/hour at McDonalds doesn't?'
 - 'Best practices for the start of the semester – setting expectations, training, and managing budgets and work-study awards'
 - Our topic for next month is 'student employee mental health'.
- Throughout December, ten CCD departments got festive for the holidays and decorated their offices for our Annual Winter Wonderland contest. Voting was open to anyone to choose their pick for Best in Show. The teams had a lot of fun decorating and a great time was had by all. In the end, Best in Show went to the Testing Center. Other winners included Accessibility Services for Best Nostalgic Scene, and Financial Aid for Best Use of Bling.





Progress Toward Workforce 2022-23 KPMs

Goal: 45% Diverse Hires for Monthly Staff

Progress: 45% Diverse Monthly Staff Hires in AY 22-23

Goal: 25% Diverse Hires for Adjuncts

Progress: 23% Diverse Adjunct Hires in AY 22-23

Goal: 85% of CCD Staff participates in Professional Development training

Progress: 63% of CCD Staff have participated in Professional Development in AY 22-23

Goal: Reduce the turnover rate for first year employees from 20% to 10%

Progress: tbd

Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships

- Beginning Saturday, Jan. 28 through March 11, out of room 202 in our Cherry Creek building, **Tax Help Colorado** will be providing free in-person assistance with filing your taxes from an IRS-certified preparer.
- On **MLK Day**, CCD recognized employees dedicated to serving our community outside of their roles with the College. Employees recorded their service hours throughout the year through our MLK Year of Service initiative. This year the College is looking forward to building partnerships with community organizations to create more service opportunities for our CityHawks to stay engaged with our Beloved Community.
- CCD's work-study program and **Reading Partners** have come together to give work-study eligible students an opportunity to provide one-on-one literacy tutoring to aspiring elementary student readers! Tutors work with a student from a local elementary school and provide reading instruction on a consistent basis throughout the school year. This involves meeting weekly with the student and working through a lesson plan provided by Reading Partners.

- With Loan Forgiveness on hold, CCD has continued our partnership with **ECMC Solutions** to help students create a repayment plan and answer questions at no cost.
- On January 25th, CCD President Dr. Marielena DeSanctis joined the Westminster community to break ground on a new CTE campus, **Ranum Reimagined**, for **Westminster Public Schools**. The new school will focus on hands-on and industry-relevant education for high school students. Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/colorado/news/westminster-public-schools-new-campus-high-school-students-campus/?intcid=CNM-00-10abd1h>

From WPS: [WPS Breaks Ground on Ranum Reimagined](#)

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

- President DeSanctis co-authors article published by **Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning**. The article discusses a new framework that highlights the importance of the higher education instructional workforce in undergraduate education change efforts and identifies interlinked impacts of governance, professional development, and evaluation and reward systems. Find the article on their website: <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/vchn20/current>
- **Rose Community Foundation** awarded CCD **\$40,000** through the 2022 Equitable Economic Opportunity and Community Wealth Building grant to support students with emergency housing assistance. This grant will support approximately 100 CityHawks with housing insecurity to ensure they can continue toward their academic and career goals.
- Through **Bank of America's Progresando** initiative in collaboration with EAB, CCD received an award of \$125,000 to build a dental assisting to dental hygiene bridge program.
- The **Auraria Learning and Employment Ecosystem** received a \$140,000 planning grant through a local private funder. The planning grant is led by the Learning Economy Foundation, who brought in Whiteboard Advisors to support our collaborative efforts.
- CCD Institutional Research, Analytics, and Effectiveness launched its first set of **Power BI dashboards** supporting Goal Call data reports. The first dashboards include application conversions, registration by Pathways, and Focus Programs analytics.