



SBCCOE Report – July 2021 Dr. Lance Bolton, President

TRANSFORM THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- **The Office of Sustainability and Fitness Center host events to get students moving!**

Corral Bluffs Open Space Guided Hike

Friday, June 18, 2021, from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Corral Bluffs Open Space

The Fitness Center and Office of Sustainability invited PPCC students to a guided hike at Corral Bluffs Open Space, located 10-minutes East of Colorado Springs. Students had the chance to learn about the geology, wildflowers, prairie birds, pronghorns, and deer. The hike was an easy walk of about 2.5 miles, and the guide would occasionally stop to rest and talk about the natural resources. For more information, visit <https://www.ppcc.edu/sustain/Your-Actions>. Hiking is free, healthy, and environmentally friendly.

Bike Month Photo Contest

June 1-30, 2021

Facebook, Instagram, Email

Students had the chance to win up to a \$50 PPCC Bookstore gift voucher by taking a selfie on their bicycle and posting it on our social media pages or sending it via email. The Office of Sustainability accepted photos for all of the following categories: commuting, mountain biking, riding for fun, family, or friend bike ride, and the Colorado Springs Pedal Our Past bike tour. For more information, visit <https://www.ppcc.edu/sustain/Your-Actions>. Biking saves you money, improves your health, and reduces your carbon footprint.

- **PPCC Alum highlighted in local news for “her efforts to serve her community”**

Joselyne Cimpaye recently graduated from Harrison High School as well as PPCC as a concurrent enrollment student. While earning her high school diploma, Cimpaye also became a Certified Nursing Assistant with an associate degree from PPCC, and in the end she was awarded the Daniels Scholarship for her leadership in the community.

“Cimpaye said she's overcome challenges in life, that shaped who she is today. In 2007, her family was selected to come to the United States after staying at a refugee camp in Tanzania. ‘We were very thankful to come to America because we heard about all these amazing, dreams about how people can actually live the American dream,’ said Cimpaye.”

The article goes on to detail that Joselyne’s goal is to open her own practice one day as a geriatric nurse practitioner, a dream that started with her experience as a CNA and while helping her grandmother.

Read more about PPCC alum Joselyne Cimpaye’s accomplishments in the full article: [Local teen recognized for her efforts to serve her community \(koa.com\)](https://koa.com/local-teen-recognized-for-her-efforts-to-serve-her-community)

- **PPCC PTK Student selected as a 2021 Coca-Cola Leader of Promise Scholar**

Congratulations are in order for PPCC’s own Jaycie Allen, student and member of PPCC’s chapter of the [Phi Theta Kappa](#) Honor Society. Allen has been selected as a 2021 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

According to Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner, President and CEO of PTK Honor Society, “The Leaders of Promise Scholarship, sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, recognizes 200 Phi Theta Kappa members with awards totaling \$200,000...This year’s recipients were selected by a panel of independent judges from more than 900 applicants. Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholars are selected based on outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated leadership potential.”

Allen was selected based on her outstanding academic achievements and leadership potential, and on behalf of PPCC, *kudos!*

TRANSFORM OUR OWN WORKFORCE EXPERIENCE

- **PPCC Hosts Open House Lunch for Employees**

All PPCC employees were invited to attend an open house lunch on Tuesday, July 6, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., which took place at all four campus locations. The lunch was inspired by the fact that the past 15 months have provided unexpected challenges and opportunities, with a focus to come together, share a meal, and celebrate all that we did together to serve our students and community during that time.

Resources for connection and stress reduction were offered at this event, along with Wristbands – aka Completely Voluntary Visual Cues for Social Distancing Comfort levels, which each color representing a different level:

- Green – high fives and hugs
- Black and Yellow – elbow bumps and a little extra space
- Red – still following full social distancing, please greet from six feet

Employees are encouraged to continue to share stories of triumph and hardship as we strive to reconnect after the last year and a half.

CREATE EDUCATION WITHOUT BARRIERS THROUGH TRANSFORMATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- **Partnership with CO Parks and Wildlife leads to nesting homes for local bluebirds**

PPCC Zoo Keeping Instructor Jenyva Fox and her Avian Conservation students have partnered with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to create the first ever bluebird nest box route on the Centennial Campus at PPCC.

This nesting route consists of 8 bluebird boxes mounted on posts in the surrounding fields of the campus. Colorado Parks and Wildlife provided the nest boxes and recommended the nesting routes, including three more possible routes that can be added at a later date. As part of the Zoo Keeping program, students will monitor these nest boxes in an effort to help conservation efforts of our local bluebirds, tree swallows and cavity nesters.

Check out the photos below!



Kris Johnson, Dean of Natural and Physical Sciences

- **Partnership with Colorado Public Radio and PPCC's KEPC Radio benefits all!**

PPCC has entered into a 5-year partnership with Colorado Public Radio (CPR) that will benefit both CPR and PPCC's own KEPC 89.7 FM radio channel. [KEPC](#) is student/staff operated by Radio and Television Program students, and this real-life training prepares them for the world of commercial, internet, and satellite radio.

The partnership entails the following points:

- CPR and KEPC trade signals, giving CPR access to KEPC's strong signal and allowing KEPC to access CPR's vast listenership.
- PPCC receives access to the Manitou Springs-based KXRE, a weaker broadcast signal to broadcast student-produced programming.
- CPR promotes PPCC on KEPC signal.
- CPR upgrades the KEPC broadcast equipment as needed. They also maintain both KEPC and KXRE equipment.
- CPR provides paid internships to PPCC students at CPR.
- There is no change in ownership of equipment or broadcast signal.
- The partnership is for 5 years with auto-renewal if both parties remain happy with the arrangement.
- There is minimal cash transferred with only CPR agreeing to reimburse some expenses from PPCC for rebranding the station.

It is important to note that at the time of report submission, this agreement has not yet been approved by the FCC. PPCC has held back on publicizing this partnership until we receive the final FCC approval.

- **PPCC students will get free textbooks this year**

We're excited to announce a great new initiative that will make the college even more affordable for everyone and hopefully drive more enrollment. A partnership with Slingshot will make free required textbooks available for all degree and certificate seeking PPCC students.

"Think about it," said PPCC President Lance Bolton. "We are systematically taking away every barrier to education. We have ten times more financial aid than ever before, we have more advisors, tutors, and success coaches to help

students succeed, and now we have free textbooks, so students can actually be ready to hit the ground running when classes start. This is huge."

The pandemic has worsened the problem of educational access, particularly among the most vulnerable students. PPCC students will save an average \$1,000 on textbooks and have their required materials available on the first day of classes. Beyond removing financial barriers, having the required textbook available on the first day engages students in class earlier, reduces stress, and improves academic performance.

A national survey published by Student Public Interest Research Groups reported 65 percent of college students did not even buy textbooks for classes because of economic hardships exacerbated by the pandemic.

"Partnering with Pikes Peak Community College to offer free course materials to their students aligns with our commitment of removing barriers to learning. Having the right materials before the first day of class at no additional cost will positively impact students," said Josh Peters, president of Slingshot.

The free textbook program will be valid for the 2021/22 school year.

This offer does not extend to concurrent high school students, most of whom get free textbooks paid by their school districts.

PPCC Communications

REDEFINE OUR VALUE PROPOSITION THROUGH ACCESSIBILITY, AFFORDABILITY, QUALITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, AND OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- **PPCC named again as "Best for Vets" institution for 2021**

The *Military Times* has announced its rankings for the "2021 Military Times Best for Vets: Colleges" and PPCC has made the list again! According to their announcement, a survey is sent out each year "to colleges and universities across the nation asking about their programs for veterans. The survey results are then analyzed, along with public data about colleges and universities obtained from the Department of Education and Department of Veterans Affairs and turned into an official ranking."

PPCC's Director of Military and Veteran Programs, Paul DeCecco, stated that "PPCC will always be committed to providing quality education and support services for our military and veteran student community." Military and Veteran affiliated students succeed at PPCC!

To view more about PPCC's ranking, visit our page at [Best for Vets: Pikes Peak Community College \(militarytimes.com\)](https://colleges.militarytimes.com/)

To view the entire list, visit <https://colleges.militarytimes.com/>.

- **Congratulations to new PPCC Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Tiko Hardy**

Dr. Lance Bolton, President of PPCC, announces Dr. Tiko Hardy as our new PPCC Chief Diversity Officer in the letter below, sent to the college on July 13:

Dear PPCC,

I am thrilled to announce our new Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Tiko Hardy. For many of you Tiko needs no introduction, but if you haven't met Dr. Hardy, she has been a professor of Social Work here since 2015. She has been a dedicated and involved leader at PPCC serving as Department Chair, Co-Director of The Equity Project, Director of Diversity Global Learning, and many more roles. Further Dr. Hardy is deeply involved in our community working with other institutions of higher learning through the Social Work Program, working with El Paso County Commissioners and the Sheriff's Department on issues of diversity and equity, and working as a professional mental health clinician.

We had an exceptionally strong field of candidates for this role, but Dr. Hardy emerged as clearly the strongest and best qualified. She officially begins her new role on August 2nd. Please congratulate Tiko and welcome her to this new role. I know she will propel PPCC forward with our central work of addressing achievement gaps and ensuring we are a college focused on the success of every student and every employee.

*Best regards,
Lance*

Congratulations and welcome, Dr. Hardy!