



## Community College of Denver

### President's Report Dr. Marielena P. DeSanctis

March 2023

#### Transform the Student Experience

- CCD's second **Spring Veterinary Vaccine Clinics** will be held on April 12, 2023. 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.
- On March 28, 2023, the CCD and the Auraria Campus, was named a **Voter Friendly Campus**, one of 258 campuses in 38 states and the District of Columbia by Fair Elections Center's Campus Vote Project and NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. The initiative recognizes institutions that have planned and implemented practices that encourage their students to register and vote in the 2022 elections and in coming years.



The mission of the 2023 Voter Friendly Campus designation is to bolster colleges and universities' efforts to help students overcome barriers to participating in the political process – every year, not just during years featuring federal elections. The campus was evaluated based on a written plan for how we planned to register, educate, and turnout student voters in 2022, how we facilitated voter engagement efforts on our campus, and a final analysis of our efforts.

- Beginning Fall 2023, CCD students will have the option to take GT-SC2 which is **GEO:1060 Global Climate Change**. This course presents global climate change from an Earth science perspective, examines interrelationships among stakeholders, and explores efforts to mitigate consequences from and adapt to climate change. This course is ideal for students without a strong science background and/or program interests outside of the physical sciences. This course is scheduled to run in person, on campus FA23, (MW, 1230-1345) and will be led by veteran GEO adjunct, Sam Bishop.

- In the Spring and Summer of 2022, six CCD students conducted field research at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge where they collected data on water quality, fish and macroinvertebrate assemblages, beaver tree preference, and wildlife use of beaver ponds under the supervision of Biology faculty members, Dawn Cummings and Tyler Williams.

The students completed their work by submitting a written report of their research results to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This collaboration provided the USFWS with valuable data and the students acquired valuable skills that they can use in careers in environmental science, wildlife conservation, or ecological research.



### Transform Our Own Workforce Experience



**Dr. Faye Anderson was selected as Health Care Informatics Faculty Chair.** Dr. Faye Anderson started her career as a programmer and worked with a consulting group that served businesses in making knowledgeable decisions based on their data. She then progressed to statistical analysis when she realized that she needed some sort of formal education in statistics in order to have a better understanding of its applications. After graduation, she joined the University of Texas as a statistician for the Department of Medicine, where she met other statisticians and health practitioners. With the encouragement of her advisors, she published peer-reviewed papers and books.



**Dr. Ann McCalley is now serving as the new Interim Dean of the Public Safety and Legal Services Pathway and the Social and Behavioral Science Pathways.** Dr. McCalley, has been serving as the Director of Student Learning Support and Testing Center at the Community College of Denver since 2018. Ann serves as the current CCCS Functional Group Leader for Tutoring/Academic Support and the Chapter President of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges. Prior to this role, she has held roles within teaching, faculty development and peer teacher mentorship, enrollment, advising, financial aid, and disability services at a variety of secondary institution types.



**Dr. NeeCee Matthews-Bradshaw is now serving as interim Director for the Excel Zone.** Dr. Matthews-Bradshaw is an educator with 20 plus years of experience in writing instruction, writing tutoring administration, instructional design, adult learning, and curriculum development. She has dedicated her career to identifying best practices for helping students and faculty address their writing education needs.



Beginning February 16, 2023, **Randy White is serving as interim Vice President of Administrative Services and Chief Financial Officer.** Randy brings to CCD decades of diverse leadership experience, including his service as CFO for the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and VP of Business Operations and CFO for Northwest Florida State College. Randy has served as Chief Financial Officer for five separate organizations, one of which was selected in 2005 as “Best Financial Management Organization in the Air Force.”

Randy began his military career as a payment clerk and retired as Colonel after serving 33 years in Air Force Financial Management. During his service, he was responsible for formulating and executing the \$46B Operation & Maintenance budget for the Air Force. In this role, Randy defended the budget before Congressional staffers and committees, collaborated with other military services to ensure a clear understanding of the Air Force funding strategy and goals, and reported the Air Force's financial status monthly and annually to the Air Force Council. Previous assignments included serving as Chief Financial Officer for the Air

Armament Center in Florida and Chief Financial Officer for the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.



**Jim Chavez joins CCD as our Executive Director of the Foundation.** Jim is a visionary and strategic leader who has dedicated much of his professional life to working for education-related causes, providing and fostering opportunities for youth to pursue higher levels of education. From 2004 to 2022, Jim served as the Executive Director of the Latin American Educational Foundation, a Colorado nonprofit providing college assistance and guidance to Colorado's Latino students and their families, including direct scholarship support.

Jim was deeply and intimately involved with like-minded organizations to successfully establish and pass the ASSET legislation benefiting Colorado's undocumented student population. And more recently, he worked together with Denver officials, and business and political leaders to successfully pass the legislation creating the Prosperity Denver Fund.

- **Conversation Day 2023 was a huge success!** On March 17, 2023, CCD employees headed to the Denver Center for Performing Arts Complex to engage in a day of dialogue and professional development. EAB's Dr. Christina Hubbard led two sessions with throughout the day. The first focused on the state of the sector for community colleges highlighting the "Great Opt-Out," the growing non-consumption of education, the increasing importance of closing equity gaps, and centralized talent strategy. During her second session, she talked with us about insight and strategies for serving today's learners.

Dr. DeSanctis provided opening remarks, led discussions during lunch regarding the bookstore on campus, and in the afternoon, she led the Executive Panel with questions provided by employees in-person and virtually.



### Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships

- On Friday, March 3, 2023, CCD's President, Dr. Marie DeSanctis and the Consulate General of Mexico in Denver, Pavel Melendez Cruz, held a signing ceremony in celebration of the partnership for the **Ventanilla de Orientación Educativa** program. The Ventanilla De Orientacion Educativa (VOE), sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States through the Institute of Mexicans Abroad (IME), provides information and assistance to the Mexican community living in the United



States regarding opportunities, programs and educational services available to them within the region. Community College of Denver is pleased to administer the VOE in Denver as the Consulate's educational partner. The College provides in-person staffing at the Mexican Consulate in Denver to meet with individuals and families. The programs, activities, and literature offered by the college are free of charge and provided in both English and Spanish.

This partnership opens doors of opportunity and access to education and employment for residents of Denver in the Mexican community, including US citizens, immigrants and visitors.

- CCD was well represented at **CCD Day at North High School** on March 9, 2023! Staff from Admissions, Financial Aid, TRIO/EOC, SPARC and Academic Advising were on hand to meet with North HS seniors who are interested in attending CCD. Currently, 100 students from North have been admitted to CCD to attend this Fall semester.



- **Centennial House Renovations by Architectural Technology Students | CCD**  
Architectural Technology students engaged in a first-of-its-kind historic preservation project on one of the oldest houses in the 9th Street Historic Park. Partnering with Auraria Higher Education Center's Campus Facilities and CU Denver, the Morrison-based HistoriCorps preservation training nonprofit is leading the effort to repair and restore to operational status the historic wood windows on the Centennial House.

HistoriCorps orchestrates work efforts such as this nationally to train the next generation of historic preservation specialists through the act of restoring buildings in need of immediate assistance. CCD students are learning about construction sequencing, job site organization and safety, and extensive tool use, as well as the technology of traditional buildings and the philosophy of historic preservation.



- CCD and Hensel Phelps hosted the **Women in Construction** speed mentoring and panel discussion during lunch on March 9, 2023. This event brought high school students interested in pursuing a career in Construction, Engineering, Design, and Architecture to meet with female leaders in construction.



- **Tax Help Colorado** closed at CCD on Saturday, March 11, 2023, exceeding all of our program sponsor's goals. This year, 327 returns were filed for free for the families from the CCD community! This represents more than \$595,497 in refunds and an additional \$81,750 of tax preparation related fees saved by these families. This program was led by CCD's Brian Gilsdorf, Associate Professor for Accounting, and supported by more than 37 students has a 96% e-file accuracy rate.

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

- On January 25, 2023, the Department of Labor who conducted a desk audit and completed the provisional **Apprenticeship Program Review** for our Health and Natural Sciences Veterinary Apprenticeship Program. After completing a few corrective actions, CCD's registered apprenticeship program moved from provisional status to permanent status.
- **Becoming a Data-Informed Institution.** On March 10, 2023, EAB provided CCD with an introduction to data literacy. During this training, Linda Marchlewski walked CCD through the essential skills to be data informed. We also rolled out our new and improved research project request form that incorporates the fundamentals taught during the training.
- **CCD Foundation Scholarships for AY23-24:**
  - PEO Chapter GP | \$3,000/year
  - Hord Coplan Macht | \$5,000/year
  - CO Women's Bar Association | \$2,000/year
  - DEI Scholarships | \$50,000/year for 3 years
  - Rose Community Foundation | \$40,000
  - Winograd Award | \$1,000/year, previously \$200/year
  - Matched Dollars for new donations | \$20,000 from Anschutz Foundation
  - Matched Dollars from COSI | \$75,000
  - Returning scholarships | \$130,586
  - **TOTAL 23-24 Foundation Scholarships committed to-date | \$326,586**

**Key Performance Metrics 2022-23**

Increase overall fall to spring retention by 10%.  
(Baseline 64%)



**67% Student Retained**  
Fall 2022 to Spring 2023  
(4,571 out of 7,244)

Increase the concurrent enrollment participation of Title 1 DPS high school students by 10%. (976 to 1,073)



**Exceeded Goal**  
Concurrent enrollment student participation  
from Title 1 DPS high schools in 2022-23  
(1,483 unduplicated headcount)

45% Diverse Hires for Monthly Staff



**45%**  
Diverse hires for Monthly Staff

25% Diverse Hires for Adjuncts



**23%**  
Diverse hires for Adjuncts



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



**63%**

CCD staff have participated in Professional  
Development

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