

COLORADO NORTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

President's Report
Ron Granger, President
March 2020

Transform the Student Experience

For Black History month Campus Life incorporated a taste of the south with a day of jazz, Trivia and historical facts, and African American Art night. Students were able to view famous painting and utilize skills with Abstract Expression, contextual and confluence practices.



CNCC received a \$36,000 grant from CDHE to transition to Open Educational Resources. The funds will be used to pay for additional training, travel, supplies, and a stipend for faculty participating in the transition. We will be transitioning approximately 23 courses to OER. Twenty five percent of our faculty will be participating in the training led by CNCC's OER Ambassador, Nicholas Swails. The courses included in the first

round of OER are ART, BIO, CHE, COM, HIS, MAT, PSY, and SOC. These courses were chosen because they are Guaranteed Transfer courses that will affect at least 25% of our General Education and Career and Technical Education students. This has the potential to save students \$1,200 to \$1,400 per year. We held our first training (via polycom) on Friday February 14 where the faculty were introduced to what OER is; how it can make college more affordable, accessible, and equitable; how it will increase student success; and open licensing. We will meet in May for a two day workshop. Besides working on the transition of their courses to OER; the May trainings will be held to help promote in-person collaboration that is often missing because the campuses are so far apart.

Our Agriculture Department is in the process of incubating eggs to hatch chicks. We have received several eggs that we are incubating and at the present time have had four eggs hatch. We will bring more information about this project in the next report and hopefully will have dozens of more chicks that have hatched by then.

CNCC received a \$500,000 grant from the Colorado Attorney General's Office to start a Cyber-Security program at the college. The grant is for three years and will help us get a faculty member hired, revamp existing space, and buy equipment. The program will start at the Craig campus in fall 2021 but will be setup on both campuses after the start.



On February 22 we had sophomore night for our men's and women's basketball players. Twelve student athletes were honored for their dedication to basketball, academics, and CNCC.



Our Phi Theta Kappa students on the Rangely Campus held their annual coat drive. The coats will be distributed to those families in need. This was very successful and the students did a great job and getting much needed coats, sweaters, gloves, and scarfs donated.



Transform Our Own Workforce Experience

Through our Safety Department, Trevor Sperry, Director, and National Park Ranger Academy, CNCC held a women's self-defense class. Many of our employees along with students and community members from Rangely and Meeker attended the class. Overall we had 26 individuals being taught different self-defense techniques. Chuck Huyck, NPS Director, and his staff donated their time to teach the class.



Landon Pirius, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, visited our campus in February. He spent time talking with many of our faculty and staff. Landon also was present for Senator Bennet's visit and had the opportunity to talk with him. Between visits he was able to climb the ice tower and take a ride in one of our planes.



Create Education without Barriers through Transformational Partnerships

We held our monthly Community Networking meetings on both the Craig and Rangely campuses in February. Keith Peterson, Vice President of Instruction, and Sasha Nelson, Director of Workforce, presented an update to the community members on programs we have implemented, new program starts in the future, community education, and workforce development. We had around 20 people in attendance at the Craig meeting and around 30 attend the Rangely meeting. The community had many good questions and were very pleased with the direction of CNCC.

I am pleased to announce that CNCC is now a Paleontological Repository for the State of Colorado in addition to its repository status under BLM. This means CNCC can permit, collect, and store fossils found on State Land. All of this came about due to an accidental collection of fossil tracks last summer that was on State land, not BLM's – our permit at the time only encompassed BLM land. The error was found when Liz Johnson, Curator for CNCC, was preparing the annual report. She immediately notified the state office informing them of the accidental collection. They were incredibly understanding and gave us the opportunity to apply for repository status to keep these amazing tracks.

CNCC participated in the Economic Round Table held in Craig for Moffat County. Ron Granger, John Anderson, Vice President of Student Affairs/Craig Campus, and Sasha Nelson, Director of Workforce, were all in attendance. The college is working with Craig community leaders, Moffat County leaders, regional workforce development office, and AGNC on finding ways to help our communities with the pending shutdown of the power plants and coal mines near Craig.

CNCC joined leaders from Rangely, Craig, Moffat County, Rio Blanco County, and AGNC in a “sit down discussion” with State Senator Bob Rankin. The college presented information to Senator Rankin on our “needs” in the aviation realm to help move these areas forward.

Senator Michael Bennet was on the Rangely Campus to tour our aviation and aviation maintenance facilities. Senator Bennet had the opportunity to speak with faculty, staff, and students on these programs, and how these programs can help northwest Colorado. After his tour, Senator Bennet had a meeting with local leaders and was able to talk to them about what the needs are for the town and county to thrive. This was a great meeting and Senator Bennet and his staff enjoyed being able to speak to everyone and to see what CNCC has to offer. Everyone in attendance was excited about the conversation with him and about how this may open some doors for economic development in the future.





Redefine Our Value Proposition through Accessibility, Affordability, Quality, Accountability, Resource Development, and Operational Excellence

The Town of Rangely donated one of their patrol cars to our National Park Service Academy to be used in the training of our students. This was a great addition to our current fleet of vehicles used in this program.

