# LEGACIES

Central Oregon Community College Foundation • Summer 2015

# COCC Foundation Celebrates Rich History Looking Back on the Start of the Foundation

This is an edited version of the early history of the COCC Foundation contained in the book, "Blazing a Trail: The 50-year history of Central Oregon Community College," written by local author Frank X. Fiedler in 1999 as part of the College's 50th anniversary celebration.

The Central Oregon Community College Foundation was incorporated on June 2, 1955 to accept donations to the College for use in student scholarships and loans.

One of the first gifts received was a soda fountain from Cruikshank's City Drug Store. It was later sold and the money put into a building fund for a student union.

Other early gifts came from Bend businessman Carl Erickson (\$500 for scholarships); the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Bend Aerie (a revolving loan fund of \$500 – loans were not to exceed \$55 to any one student and had to be repaid within 90 days); and H. A. "Ham" Miller, president of Miller Lumber Co. (\$4,000 for scholarships).

Since the College was still trying to attract students and financial aid was not abundant, President Dr. Don Pence was looking for a way to entice high school students to at-

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in This issue
COCC Foundation Celebrates Rich History
A Message from Dr. Shirley I. Metcalf
Coats Campus Center
Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program
Kimberly Banner6
Meal of the Year7
Makezie Nord8
Tuesday Neuman9
A Message from Matt McCoy
Donors Investing in Community



tend the local community college rather than a four-year institution elsewhere.

During the early years of the Foundation, fund-raising was modest but brought much goodwill to the College. Also, members of the Foundation proved instrumental in facilitating the meetings that eventually created the College's taxing district in 1962.

When Dr. Frederick H. Boyle became the college president in 1967, he wanted to build stronger ties to the community at large. While agreeing that the major role of the Foundation was to provide financial assistance to needy district students, he realized that the Foundation was an organization designed to collect private funds to support activities and programs at the college that were not being adequately funded by public sources.

In 1974, George Zahl, then the dean of students, was picked by Boyle to re-invigorate the Foundation and Boyle credits him with bringing a number of influential citizens on its board.

Eric Alexander expanded the Foundation's presence in the community with such events as the annual Meal of (Continued on page 16)

# A Message from Dr. Shirley I. Metcalf



Dr. Shirley I. Metcalf COCC President

"The common theme for me this year has been the tremendous connectivity between the College, the COCC Foundation and the communities we serve."

- Dr. Shirley I. Metcalf

This has been a year of many changes and activities at Central Oregon Community College. When I wrote this piece for the last issue of Lega-

cies, I told you that I was serving as the interim president, filling in between the retirement of Jim Middleton and in anticipation of the arrival of a new president this summer.

As you likely know, in March, the COCC Board of Directors voted to name me as the fifth president in the College's history. It is quite an honor to follow in the footsteps of the first four presidents – Don Pence, Fred Boyle, Bob Barber and Jim Middleton. They, along with past and present Boards of Directors, helped establish and maintain the College as one of the highest quality community colleges in the country and as an important – even critical – contributing member of the Central Oregon community.

Similarly, the COCC Foundation, with its own outstanding leadership from Boards of Trustees and Executive Directors, has always been a model among community college foundations, and certainly is a well-respected philanthropic organization in Central Oregon. As I enter my fourth month as the permanent president, I welcome Zak Boone to the role of Executive Director of the Foundation, and Jeff Stuermer as the Chair of the Foundation Board, and look forward to working with them as we continue to move the Foundation forward.

It was my pleasure this year to be with many of you at the Taste of the Town and Meal of the Year in February and to see the generous support for our students and our College. One of the highlights of my year was hosting our celebration in May when we honored the family of Robert and Joyce Coats for the donation of much of the land that is now the Bend Campus. This is our 50th year in this location and we have been able to serve so many students here on this campus. It was great seeing hundreds of community members come out to celebrate with the more than 30 members of the Coats family, and to see how this College has changed over the 50 years.

I also so enjoyed the dedication ceremony last September of our new Redmond Technology Education Center at our Redmond campus. It was a great reminder to our college and our community that we serve all of Central Oregon, with campuses in Redmond, Madras and Prineville. It was also a chance to thank the citizens of Central Oregon for their tremendous vote of confidence in passing the \$41.6 million bond measure back in 2009, during the depths of the recession, that helped us respond to the community's needs with new facilities to serve more students. The Technology Center was the fifth new building funded by this bond measure, including the Science and Health Careers Centers on the Bend campus, and the new facilities in Madras and Prineville.

The common theme for me this year has been the tremendous connectivity between the College, the COCC Foundation and the communities we serve. I have often said that I love this College. Now, after meeting many members of our larger community, I know that I am not alone in feeling that tremendous admiration and respect for what COCC and the COCC Foundation do for Central Oregon.

# LEGACIES

# Coats Campus Center Recognizing the Coats' Generous Land Donation



At one time, the west slope of Awbrey Butte was considered a scenic place to hunt deer. It was also where the Cascade Motorcycle Club staged their races. It was here that Bob (R.L.) and Joyce Coats planned to build their dream home. Instead, this area became the site for the campus of the rapidly growing Central Oregon Community College.

The Coatses moved to Bend around 1950 when Bob was hired by the Oregon State Highway Department to supervise the work being done by contractors to build bridges or roads. Bob was then hired by a construction company, and then started his own company, adding concrete and gravel operations as well. He was also involved in the community, serving as one of the first board members of the COCC Foundation around 1960. During this time, Bob had been buying distressed properties, acquiring substantial land holdings on Bend's west side.

Bob and Joyce both wanted the nascent Central Oregon College, started in 1949, to grow beyond its location in the basement of Bend High School. Bob was deeply grateful for the college education he received from the GI Bill and from the money received from his serious war wound: he wanted to give back.

They closely followed the discussions taking place about where the College should build its own campus. Bob drove Joyce out to the 29 acres near Pilot Butte that was proposed for the campus and told her, "It is not enough land."

He went to Don Pence, the president of the College, and offered 80 acres and then also helped the College in securing an additional 70 acres. "We feel that Bend needs this college and that our children and theirs will benefit by this proposal," they said.

Their generous donation would, at current land value, make it the largest single donation to the College in its history. Five years ago, Joyce Coats said, "We've never been sorry (about giving the land). We felt the College needed room to grow."

In May, as part of its 50th anniversary celebration of its Bend Campus, the College's Campus Center was named for the Coatses in recognition of their appreciation of education, desire to give back, vision and generosity.



# Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program

Women Swimming Upstream:
The Global Empowerment of Women
at Work in the Developing World

### **ALISON WRIGHT**

Social Documentary Photographer

Thursday, October 22 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tower Theatre, downtown Bend

Tickets will be available September 1, 2015

From India to Africa, tea fields to technology, women are the resilient backbone in the work force of their communities. This presentation will allow participants to journey around the world with National Geographic photographer and Traveler of the Year, Alison Wright, as she presents her photographs documenting the resiliency and empowerment of women at work in developing countries.

Wright will share stories of these women in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East who have risen above circumstance to empower themselves through their



strength and tenacity. Her photographic presentation depicts women at work in diverse disciplines -- from their role in war and conflict areas to their work in microfinancing, healthcare, homemaking and professional occupations. Her project also highlights individuals and grassroots organizations that are committed to finding creative solutions to the challenges these women face through all aspects of work in their global communities.

This program is made possible by the generous support of University of Oregon School of Journalism.



Alison Wright has spent her career capturing the human spirit through her photographs and writing.

Wright has an incredible story of survival, after her life was nearly cut short after a horrific bus accident in Laos. Not only did she survive injuries that would have killed many others, she thrived.

Doctors told her to find a new career, that she would never be able to continue working as a photojournalist. They told her she would never walk again. After more than 30 surgeries over two years, she achieved the unthinkable: climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. Wright uses powerful and vivid photography to reveal the diversity and ultimately, the universality, of people across the globe.

### Stay Informed

If you would like to receive emails about these and other events of the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program, please contact Charlotte Gilbride at: cgilbride@cocc.edu or 541-383-7257. Visit www.cocc.edu/foundation/vsp for current event information and updates.



# Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program

# A Conceptual Ecology of the Human Microbiome

### DR. NICOLAE MORAR

Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Biology University of Oregon

### Monday, October 12 6:30 to 8 p.m. Hitchcock Auditorium, Pioneer Hall COCC Bend Campus

Tickets \$10 general public; \$8 for Sunriver Nature Center members. Students are free with ID card. Tickets are available through Sunriver Nature Center or at the door.

Dr. Nicolae Morar will discuss the recent discovery that the human body contains 10 times more microbes than cells and how this presents us with a real challenge of who we are as human beings. He will talk about how this discovery alters the most common conceptions of health and disease and its direct impact on bioethics.

This presentation is a collaboration between the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program and the Sunriver Nature Center.





### COCC Foundation Awarding Process

The COCC Foundation Scholarship process is competitive and rigorous:

- All applicants complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which gives an objective measure of their financial circumstances.
- All applicants answer three narrative questions that cover adversities
  they have overcome and leadership roles they have carried; financial
  circumstances they are facing; and their goals and aspirations.
- Each narrative is anonymously reviewed by three different community volunteers and the scores are averaged.
- The scores for the FAFSA and the narratives are merged and then ranked.

Each year, the COCC Foundation awards as many scholarships as possible, based on available funds, to the highest scoring students.

### 2014-2015 COCC Foundation Facts

- **760** students applied for the COCC Foundation scholarship for first-time awards.
- 250 were awarded first-time scholarships based on available funds.
- **80** students received renewal scholarships (scholarship can be renewed up to three years total).
- COCC Foundation awarded more than \$1.12 million in scholarships.
- Full scholarship is \$3,400—enough for a student to take 12 credits plus fees per term for three terms.

# Kimberly Banner

### Overcomes Tragedy and Earns Degree with the Help of a Foundation Scholarship

While many students overcome challenges to earn their degrees, Kimberly Banner exhibited incredible resilience and determination in the face of not one, but three, devastating circumstances while attending COCC.

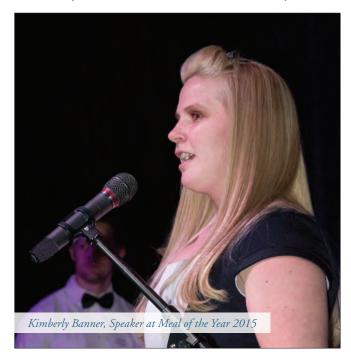
Kimberly was in the second year of her coursework to earn a degree in Early Childhood Education when she learned that her mother had been diagnosed with terminal cancer at age 55. Two months later, she learned that her 10-year-old daughter had a deadly form of leukemia, which required six months of chemotherapy in Portland. Her fiancé Ryan stayed in Bend to care for the three other children. Incredibly, tragedy struck again two months later when Ryan died suddenly from diabetes complications. Five months later, her mother passed away.

"As my world was falling down around my family, I knew I couldn't give up on what I had been working so hard to accomplish," says Kimberly. "Without the Foundation scholarships that I was awarded, there is no way that I would have been able to take care of my family during such a hard time in our lives.

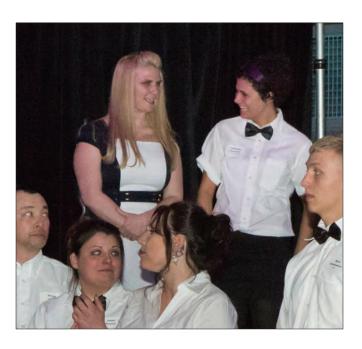
"I feel so blessed and honored to be chosen to receive the Betty Gray Scholarships from the COCC Foundation," she says. "Scholarships provide us the ability to not only take care of our financial needs but also relieve stress, which is so very important.

"I was determined to be a teacher and really help make a difference in the lives of children," says Kimberly. Her instructors worked with her to facilitate completion of her coursework online while she was in Portland for her daughter's treatments.

Kimberly's father, and later her sister, came to help with the children after her fiancé died. Her daughter is now in remission and doing very well. Kimberly earned her associate's degree in March and plans to open a preschool in Bend.



"The donations to the Scholarship Fund have a huge impact on the lives of many students and help us to accomplish our dreams in the process," says Kimberly. "Words could not ever explain how grateful I am for what donors are able to do for students like me who are trying to make a difference."



# LEGACIES

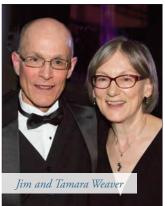
## 2015 Taste of the Town and Meal of the Year Sets a 37-Year Fundraising Record for Scholarships

The nearly 850 attendees of Central Oregon Community College Foundation's Taste of the Town and Meal of the Year benefits set a 37-year fundraising record: \$383,000 was raised for student scholarships at COCC. This year 330 deserving students received life-changing COCC Foundation scholarships in the amount of \$3,400 each.

This year's benefit included the Taste of the Town on February 27 and the Meal of the Year dinner and auctions on February 28. Guests at the sold-out Friday event enjoyed signature selections from 20 local restaurants, live music by High Street Band, dancing and a silent auction.

Nearly 400 people attended the Saturday event, which featured a delicious and artfully crafted four-course gourmet dinner created and served by Cascade Culinary Institute students and chefs as well as live and silent auctions. In addition, Tim and Martha McGinnis were honored for their numerous contributions to the Central Oregon community.













Ninety-two businesses and individuals generously donated to this year's live and silent auctions; this year the total revenue from their donations was \$61,000.

Since 2009, Jaime and Ginger Aguirre, owners of Ginger's Kitchenware, have been donating to the live auction item, Cuisine de Mexico Culinary Journey for 10. The menu of this unique dining experience features the bold yet sophisticated flavors of traditional foods of Mexico, which are enhanced by special wine and tequila pairings. This popular live auction item has raised \$13,500 in the last six years.

Ed Bartz, owner of Eco-Scapes, donated a season of one-hour weekly visits from his landscape maintenance business. Landscape professionals fertilize and irrigate lawns and prune shrubbery and trees March through October. This sought-after silent auction item has raised nearly \$35,000 since 1993.

### Makenzie Nord

### "The Foundation Scholarship Has Afforded Me the Opportunity to Visualize a New Career."

After graduating from high school in Bend, Makenzie Nord completed a cosmetology program and started working as a stylist to support herself.

"While working at Aveda, I became completely fascinated by the plant science behind Aveda's all-natural product line and discovered my passion for plants and science," says Makenzie. "I envisioned a brighter future for myself in the field of botany."

Enrolling at COCC, she found out about the COCC Foundation scholarship through her financial aid advisor.

"I would like the scholarship donors to know that paying for college actually puts more stress on students than the college work itself, and can be a deterrent from going and/or finishing," says Makenzie. "I cannot tell you how amazing of a gift these scholarships are. I am forever grateful that there are generous people out there willing to donate money to help us students pursue our dreams and help relieve some of this financial stress.

"To think that people I do not even know are willing to help me go after my dreams is absolutely amazing, and it makes me want to go pursue my goals with even more determination than before."

Makenzie continues to work at the Aveda salon in downtown Bend about 20 hours per week. She would like to



continue her education at Oregon State University in Corvallis and complete the Bioresource and Research degree.

"I have undeniably changed and grown to crave the intellectual stimulation that my college experience has provided," says Makenzie. "The Foundation scholarship has afforded me the opportunity to visualize a new career and therefore, a new potential for my future. By continuing my education, I will grow personally and intellectually and hope to be a valuable asset to the field of botany."

GENERAL	PERSONAL INFORMATION	I am: COCC Alumni P	ast COCC Scholarship Recipient
I would like to contribute:	Name (s)		
tuition for one year (\$3,400)	Address		
tuition for half the year (\$1,700)		State	
books for one term (\$500)	Phone	Email	
other \$	I would like my donation to remain anonymous		
Please send me information about:	PAYMENT METHOD		
Volunteer opportunities with the	Check enclosed payable to COCC Foundation or charge my Visa MasterCard		
COCC Foundation	Card Number	Expiration Date	te
Planned or estate giving through life	Cardholder Name	Billing Zip Co	de
insurance, life income plans, wills or bequests	Signature		



# Tuesday Neuman The First in Her Family to Earn a Degree

When Tuesday Neuman was about five years old, she knew she wanted to help animals when she grew up. After graduating from Crook County High School in 2011, she thought about being a zoologist, wildlife biologist, herpetologist, or other related profession, so she started work on an associate's degree in biology at COCC. While taking classes, COCC added a Veterinary Technician option so Tuesday also decided to pursue that degree.

However, in addition to tuition, student fees and text-books, the veterinary tech program entails about \$750 in additional costs. After hearing about Foundation Scholarships from other students, Tuesday decided to apply. "I am extremely grateful and feel honored to have received this scholarship," says Tuesday. "It has tremendously helped me with all the costs of earning a degree and boosts my overall confidence of making my way toward my goal

"I would like the donors to know that I could not thank them enough for choosing me out of the hundreds of students that applied for this scholarship. It has given me pride and financial support that I am extremely grateful for. Thank you!"

Tuesday has volunteered at the Humane Society and she has also taken in and cared for a handful of animals, including a diabetic cat and some reptiles. She owns many animals, mostly reptiles, that she plans to use for a breeding business in the future.



She is the first person in her family to earn a degree, and her family is very proud.

Tuesday plans to attend a university where she can major in exotic veterinary medicine. Her career goal is to work with and treat uncommon pets and zoo animals, in addition to dogs, cats and horses.

### Would You Like to Receive Legacies Electronically?

The Legacies newsletter is now available for distribution via email. To sign up for this option, please contact the COCC Foundation office at 541-383-7225 or foundation@cocc.edu.

### Gift Specification

of becoming a veterinarian.

If you decide to benefit Central Oregon Community College through your estate plans, please be certain the gift is specified to come to the Central Oregon Community College Foundation (or COCC Foundation). To discuss this or any other aspect of the Foundation, please contact Brittany Nichols at 541-383-7582 or bnichols@cocc.edu.

# A Message from Matt McCoy, VP for Administration Reflecting on Change at the COCC Foundation



Matt McCoy Vice President for Administration

The only constant is change. An overused phrase, but accurate none-theless. If we want confirmation, look no further than Central Oregon Community College and the COCC Foundation.

On May 14, we celebrated the naming of the Coats Campus Center, honoring Bob and Joyce Coats for their gift of 80 acres in 1965. Those 80 acres, and the additional land they

helped secure, established the Bend campus of COCC. Since then Central Oregon's population has swelled to over a quarter million, the College now has campuses in Redmond, Prineville and Madras, and more than 17,000 students attend COCC taking classes in 61 credit programs, and hundreds of non-credit offerings.

Another recent change: In 2015 the College named the fifth president in its 66 year history, Dr. Shirley Metcalf. The COCC Foundation's biggest change came at the end of the 2014-15 academic year when Jim Weaver, the COCC Foundation Executive Director retired. For the past 13 years the Foundation, College and community have benefited from Jim's commitment to providing students an educational opportunity they might never have had if not for a Foundation scholarship.

Through Jim's leadership, the Foundation has flourished. His unrelenting work to increase awareness directly led to greater support for COCC and the COCC Foundation, ultimately benefitting students. To put this effort into perspective, during his tenure more than 5,000 students received a Foundation scholarship. Endowments have more than tripled and community support is at an all-time high. Jim often quotes Mahatma Gandhi: "Be the change that you wish to see in the world." Jim has done just that – liv-

ing, and in many ways, leading the change that he envisioned for our students, College and community.

Over the years, how many times have we heard him say, "You cannot say thank you enough" when mentioning the generosity of donors, the commitment of faculty or the dedication of students? This is one occasion when we will say thank you to Jim. Thank you for making Meal of the Year the preeminent fundraising and friend-raising event in Central Oregon. Thank you for working to complete a \$3 million capital campaign to build the Jungers Culinary Center, a superb teaching institute training world-class chefs. Thank you for building the endowment to help more students each year. Thank you for instilling a devotion to students' well-being and nurturing that commitment in everyone you met.

And from those of us who worked most closely with you, thank you for laughing, often and uninhibited, at life's quirky twists. We appreciate your emails, phone calls and personal conversations. Thank you for sharing the travel photos and camping stories. Thank you for asking what we are doing this weekend, and for sincerely caring. And yes, thank you for the quotes. We are smiling now thinking of you delivering the words of Mother Theresa, the Dali Llama or Einstein.

Finally, thank you for your friendship. We all realize the gifts of living where we do, doing what we do and spending our days with people we enjoy. Getting to share the journey with you has made it that much better. Enjoy your next adventure. As one door closes another opens.

No doubt that Jim, Tamara and their dog Brock will be heading to the mountains, forests and beaches to pursue Jim's passion for outdoor photography. So when you are out enjoying our beautiful Oregon, if you see a happy fellow bounding down the trail, wife at his side and dog in tow, and if he happens to be quoting Friedrich Nietzsche, Buddha and perhaps Mia Angelou, please tell Jim we said hello, we miss him.

Continue to enjoy the journey my friend.



Donors Investing in Community

The following individuals, businesses and foundations are generous friends of the Central Oregon Community College Foundation who gave cash gifts between January 1 and December 31, 2014. We have worked to have an accurate list, but encourage you to call Brittany Nichols 541-383-7582 if you find an error. Most of all, to those who give: Thank you!

#### **Organizations**

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# COCC Foundation Celebrates Rich History (continued from page 1) Looking Back on the Start of the Foundation

the Year, which began in 1979, with help from Foundation Board trustees Tony Michaelson and Craig Moore. Trish Smith came up with the name of the event.

When Alexander left in 1986, the College conducted a nationwide search to find a replacement. Eventually, Boyle turned to Helen Vandervort, who had been an assistant to public information officer Jim Crowell and later, Alexander.

Vandervort started the Heritage Society of planned gifts and oversaw the beginning of the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar program.

With the arrival of the new president, Dr. Robert Barber, the Foundation was restructured. Dr. William H. Lindemann Jr., Vice-President for Community and Business Development, also wore the hat of executive director of the Foundation. He was given a small staff with which to handle the Foundation's expanding workload.

The next Foundation director, Susan E. Harless, was hired in 1997. A longtime resident of Bend, she coordinated the 50th Anniversary campaign to raise more than \$6.2 million. Co-chairs of the campaign were former students John Overbay and Ron Bryant.



In 1999 the Foundation administered more than \$6 million in assets, making it one of the largest foundations of Oregon's community colleges, and offered 229 scholarships to individuals who may not otherwise have attended college.

Update: Jim Weaver served as the Foundation's director from 2002 to 2015, during which time the Foundation's assets nearly tripled. The Foundation's endowment now stands at more than \$17 million and 330 students received full scholarships this year. In June 2015, Zak Boone was named as director and is committed to building on the success of the past 60 years.