

LEGACIES

Central Oregon Community College Foundation • Winter 2013

Health Careers Center

Designed to enhance student learning

The Health Careers Center provides modern and expanded facilities for programs such as nursing, dental assisting, medical assisting, massage therapy, pharmacy technician and veterinary technician—preparing students for living-wage jobs in Central Oregon’s health-related workforce.

There are also five new general purpose classrooms, which are all equipped with the most up-to-date audio-visual systems. The entire building is served by the campus wireless system for Internet access. There are several places within the building for students to gather and socialize or study.

The Health Careers Center’s expanded lab space was designed to provide a learning experience that emulates the environment students will encounter when they enter the workforce. Many of the labs incorporate audio-visual technology that allows the video of a process, procedure or exercise to be viewed in other rooms of the building—and even recorded for later review or instructional use.



Health Careers Center

Photo by: Christian Columbres, YGH Architecture

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Lindsi Beard-Simpkins

Nursing student appreciates features of new Health Careers Center

Lindsi Beard-Simpkins, a second-year nursing student and Foundation scholarship recipient, has taken classes both in the Ochoco Building and in the new Health Careers Center. She says the biggest difference is the amount of space and the number of Internet outlets in the classrooms. The most effective learning enhancing feature of the new building is the labs.

(Continued on page 4)

The challenge of change A message from Dr. Middleton



Dr. James Middleton
COCC President

As I look back over my 41 years of service in education, I see the current times and the unfolding future as the most turbulent period of change in my professional experience.

We have a growing awareness that the United States has slipped from its position at the international pinnacle of education. Trends indicate that today's

younger generation will be the first in American history to be less educated than their parents. At the same time, there is growing recognition that national, as well as individual, vitality will be tied to education attainment – to intellectual capital rather than natural resources or raw manufacturing capacity.

Citizens, political leaders, businesses and others are increasingly recognizing this emerging reality and are calling for educational reform, improved educational outcomes, broader cooperation across educational sectors and expanded higher education enrollment.

The Oregon educational structure is in the midst of a major redesign, including a shift away from state funding based on enrollment to funding based on results – number of degrees awarded, students transferring to a university and students gaining employment.

As we look to our educated workforce of the future, we must be increasingly sensitive to and successful with immigrant communities and non-Caucasian individuals. Hispanics represent the fastest growing segment of Central Oregon, as well as national, demographics. Educational success for Hispanics as well as African

Americans and Native Americans will be vital to the social and economic vitality that serve all.

While COCC and other colleges are being expected to improve results, our resources are being constrained. When I started at COCC in 2004, the college received \$7 million in state funding for 3,700 full time equivalent students; this year we are receiving \$5 million for an estimated 7,200 students.

Most of us are aware of the massive COCC changes in the past few years with nationally distinctive enrollment growth, opening of new campuses in Madras and Prineville, the Redmond Campus now larger than two stand alone Oregon community colleges, with exemplary new facilities, and with evolution of our partnership with OSU-Cascades campus.

These are all great changes. I do not, however, fear them. It is a time to rise to the challenge and the opportunity. COCC remains a broad and effective asset for Central Oregon. We look forward to embracing these challenges and proving our worth even more.

As COCC undertakes these challenges, there are no greater partners than the COCC Foundation and its many supporters. While state assets have dwindled, the COCC Foundation assets have increased from \$6 million, when I first came to COCC, to nearly \$16 million today, an extraordinary increase. The generous community and individual support has literally made an education possible for thousands of students and positioned COCC to continue its role as a vibrant, creative, community-responsive institution.

Yes, the times are a changing. But together and with your support, we will thrive, not merely survive.

Foundation Scholarships

Balancing the mind and heart



*Jim Weaver, COCC Foundation
Executive Director*

As humans, we are always viewing life from a mind standpoint and from a heart standpoint, some of us more one way and some of us more the other. This column is dedicated to describing the COCC Foundation scholarship award process and viewing the outcomes from both mind and heart perspectives.

COCC Foundation scholarship awards are life changing. Scholarships are based on financial need, the circumstances a person has faced, contributions they have made to society, and their sense of direction and purpose. They are for an amount sufficient to cover tuition and fees for 12 credits per term for three terms (currently \$3,200). Once a student receives a scholarship it can be renewed twice if they maintain a GPA of at least 2.5, pass all their courses and volunteer for a COCC Foundation event (on average it takes a student three years to complete their associate's degree). Scholarship applicants apply via a link on the COCC Financial Aid website from mid-December to mid-July, and this year the Foundation was able to award, of 800 applicants, 200 first-time awards and 120 renewals.

For those who apply for first-time awards, there are two parts to the process. First they fill out a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), which is a federal process that determines how much the student can pay for his or her education. This provides quantitative information to inform the process and allows the student to know if they qualify for other aid or for loans. Further, qualitative information comes from their answering the questions below, limited to 200 words per

question, which are then reviewed by three of our 90 community volunteers:

Leadership/Group Contributions: Leadership roles, personal accomplishments and/or dealing with adversity impact our lives in important ways. Describe your experiences and activities and how they have shaped you.

Financial Challenges: COCC Foundation scholarships are based on financial need. Please explain any extraordinary financial challenges you are facing that make continuing your education difficult without additional financial assistance.

Goals/Task Commitment: Describe education and career goals that you have established for yourself and your efforts to accomplish them. Give an example that would demonstrate your commitment to these goals.

This is the process that has been used for the last six years. Every year the outcomes of the scholarship recipients, compared to the general COCC population, have been outstanding. *(See Chart on page 7)*

The scholarship recipients had higher completion rates, higher grade point averages, continued to the next year at a greater rate than the general COCC population and completed a certificate or a degree. If the scholarship donors were investors, then they would be—they are—getting a high return on their investment.

The heart component is perhaps best expressed by this excerpt from a student thank you letter:

“My time at COCC has had its ups and downs, but every time I’m questioning my path, I receive positive feedback from COCC for all the hard work I’ve done. If it weren’t for scholarship donors this quest would not have been possible. I probably would have given up long ago. People like me that decide to go to school later in life, who are married and have children, it’s a big financial sacrifice. The scholarship I received has helped

(Continued on page 7)

Lindsi Beard-Simpkins *(Continued from front page)*

Nursing student appreciates features of new Health Careers Center

“We have the feeling of being in a real clinical setting, with real hospital rooms, storage, supplies and privacy,” notes Lindsi. “It has helped tremendously learning new nursing skills in our new ‘clinical setting.’”

Until this year, the nursing offices, classrooms and labs were all in different buildings on the campus. Having all components of the nursing program in one building is what Lindsi likes best about the new building.

“It is less stressful, more convenient and seems like a more organized program now,” she says. “I feel fortunate that I will be a member of the first nursing class to graduate from the new Health Careers Center.”



“Without scholarship donors like you, there would be many students who would not be able to pursue their dreams.”

-Jessica Czmowski

Health Careers Center

Dental Assisting lab takes teaching to the next level

The new dental lab in the Health Careers Center now has double the number of dental operatories and sets of instruments, reducing the amount of time that students spend waiting their turn to practice a skill or procedure. Instead of three X-ray units, there are now eight—plus a panoramic X-ray machine—giving students more opportunity to practice taking X-rays.

“Most importantly, students will be more professional because they are learning and spending time in a professional environment,” says Deb Davies, professor of dental assisting and the director of the program.

“My favorite aspect of this learning environment is the ability to ‘blur’ the line between lecture and lab,” explains Deb, who has taught dental assisting at the College since 1997. “For example, we can lecture or show a PowerPoint slide show in the classroom and then take the entire class across the hall to demonstrate something in the lab. Also, we have cameras that we can use to demonstrate a procedure in one area and then project it to all eight dental units.

“What is really exciting for me is that I don’t even know all the cool things that we will be able to do yet!”

Noah Campana

Health Careers Center is a “student-centered space”



Noah Campana Columbia

Noah Campana, emergency medical services major and Foundation scholarship recipient, recently commented on the new Health Careers Center:

“It absolutely feels like a student-centered space. From the flat-screen monitors to the enormous models, the building has been designed with the modern student in mind. The classrooms are large and comfortable, with lots of light—both natural and artificial.

“It feels like no expense was spared on the interior design, yet I don’t feel like money was thrown away on lavishness.”

Taste of the Town and Meal of the Year

Taste of the Town and Meal of the Year events are scheduled for March 1 and 2. Both evenings benefit the Foundation’s scholarship program, which seeks to create better lives through education for Central Oregonians. Last year more than 1,000 people attended both evenings, raising more than \$200,000 for student scholarships.

This year, John Teller and Amy Tykeson will be recognized for their contributions to the Central Oregon community. John, a family practice physician, serves on the board of Volunteers in Medicine. Amy is the President and CEO of BendBroadband, serves as Vice President of the Tykeson Family Charitable Trust and is a board member for Economic Development for Central Oregon.

“John and Amy have given so much to the Central Oregon community through various avenues since
(Continued on back page)



John Teller and Amy Tykeson

Gift Specification

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 Jim Weaver at 541-383-7212 or jweaver@cocc.edu.

Eddie Johnson

Science Center from the Department Chair's perspective

“The new Science Center is a major improvement in doing what we do: teach and help students learn the subject matter in our courses,” says Eddie Johnson, human biology instructor and chair of the COCC science department.

The defining aspect of the new building is that it has increased lab space, which about doubles the college's offerings of lecture-and-lab science courses. This has

drastically lowered—and in some cases eliminated—the waitlists of students trying to take these courses, according to Eddie.

“In addition, the faculty offices are all in one area which improves communication among us and makes it more collegial.”

Jetta Rackleff

Scholarship recipient on the road to a degree in chemical engineering

Self-supporting since age 17, Jetta Rackleff worked the year after graduating from high school to save up funds to attend COCC. In college, she worked a full-time job while taking a full-time credit schedule and traveling to compete in athletics. So when she found out about COCC Foundation scholarships, it felt like a lifeline.

“The Foundation scholarship made a huge difference for me,” says Jetta. “Without this generous support, going to college would not have been possible.”

“At one time I was working two jobs with a full-time school schedule, while pursuing my athletics,” she recalls. “The scholarship allowed me to give more time to my schooling.” With her demanding schedule, which included volunteer work for the Foundation, she maintained a 3.81 grade point average.

“I loved being at COCC,” says Jetta. “I was greeted with nonstop help from very qualified faculty to make my educational dreams a reality.

“When we took standardized tests in my science classes, we found out that we were on par with students from other colleges in the United States,” says Jetta. “Yet we are paying less and having more individual attention. It is a win-win situation!”

At age 6, Jetta started playing inline hockey and now plays for the USA Women's Inline Team as a starting goaltender and holds more than 100 regional, national and international awards. She is working full time this year while looking into transferring to a university where she can earn a degree in chemical engineering—possibly with help from an athletic scholarship.



Jetta Rackleff

Foundation Scholarships *(Continued)*

me be a successful student by allowing a little more time with my family and homework without the burden of further debt hanging over my head.

Before I went to COCC I was a pessimist and doubted myself on every level. I didn't have any confidence and I didn't believe in myself. I have learned through hard work and determination that I am capable of great things. Words cannot express the relief that this extra help is giving my family. Thank you for helping me become a better, more confident person by rewarding me for my efforts."

On behalf of all the students, I thank all of you who have been, are, or will be COCC Foundation scholarship donors. Thank you for changing lives forever.

Scholarship Recipient Statistics

	Avg. Credits Earned	Avg. G.P.A.	Continuing to Next Year	Completing w/ Cert. or Degree
COCC Scholarship Students	10.61	3.31	70%	35%
General COCC Student Population	7.64	2.78	47%	8%

Science Center

Maximizing space to meet demand and foster student success

The Science Center has added state-of-the-art labs and equipment for students taking science courses necessary for transferring to four-year universities and for students who need to complete science courses before entering health careers programs. Kirby Nagelhout Construction Company, the general contractor, and 60 subcontractors—primarily from Central Oregon—completed the 49,000-square-foot structure on time and within budget.

Features of the new building include:

- Three 54-seat general-use classrooms with ADA sound reinforcement systems.
- Nine labs encompassing 12,500 square feet—as compared to previously a little more than 5,000 square feet prior to this year. Labs are equipped with state-of-the-art technology that greatly enhances opportunities for student learning.
- Wireless Internet access throughout the building.
- The central part of the first floor is dedicated to lab preparation and includes a vented cadaver storage room. On the second floor is a secured, rated chemical storage room.

The students have access to a Learning Resource Center with embedded tutors, wireless capability, anatomy



Science Center Interior

Photo by: Christian Columbres, YGH Architecture

models for study and review, and three quiet group study rooms with whiteboard walls.

In addition there are two glass-enclosed group study rooms with AV connections, flat screen monitors for displaying images from laptops and whiteboard walls. Students have been taking advantage of these rooms since the second day of classes.

Community Opportunity Grant

Supporting career-focused, noncredit students

Starting in 2002 with a \$120 gift, the COCC Foundation has now awarded \$50,000 in Community Opportunity Grants to COCC students. These small supplemental grants, which average about \$200, are awarded to students taking noncredit business and

work-related development courses through COCC's Continuing Education department. These courses include computer and technology, nursing assistant, tax preparer and first aid/CPR.

Christy Schryver

Community Opportunity Grant opened door to new career

Christy Schryver knew what she wanted: a career as an emergency room nurse. To gain experience, she decided to earn the Certified Nursing Assistant Level 2 license so that she could work at St. Charles Health System.

Since the CNA course is a noncredit class offered through the COCC Community Learning department, government financial aid could not be applied to the \$995 cost. When she signed up for the course, Christy found out about the \$200 Community Opportunity Grant funded through the COCC Foundation.

“This grant made it possible for me to take the CNA 2 class and get a job at St. Charles in Bend,” says Christy. “It essentially helped me begin my nursing career and allowed me to have a positive impact on my patients and the community.”

COCC's Community Learning department offers a wide range of professional development courses. The Certified Nursing Assistant Level 2 class is an 80-hour noncredit course that includes lectures, skills labs and clinical practice.

After completing the course last fall, Christy found a full-time job as a CNA at St. Charles in January. “The course gave me knowledge and confidence to perform my job duties well,” says Christy. “Specifically, the clinical experience was invaluable in solidifying skills learned in the lab setting.”

Her previous training as a wilderness first responder and



Christy Schryver

lifeguard led Christy to pursue a career as an emergency nurse: “It is my dream to take this background and passion to the next level and go beyond the scene of the first responder to the emergency room.”

Christy was admitted into COCC's nursing program this fall. She continues to work at St. Charles, but now on a part-time relief basis.

“I have had a very positive experience at COCC so far,” she says. “Since gaining admission into the COCC nursing program, I am closer than ever to achieving my goal of becoming an emergency nurse.”

Lyle Cochran

Former scholarship recipient now teaching at Whitworth University

When Lyle Cochran graduated from Bend High School in 1980, he decided to attend COCC because of the small class sizes, the committed faculty—and a Foundation scholarship.

Although majoring in math wasn't even on his radar screen when he started classes that fall, he ended up earning a doctorate degree in math, teaching math for more than two decades and coauthoring two college calculus textbooks.

"I wasn't confident of my math skills and was especially intimidated at the prospect of taking calculus," remembers Lyle. "I assumed that I would have difficulty understanding the subject matter, and I definitely didn't think I would enjoy the course.

"However, I was blessed with great instructors at COCC. I had Don Gallagher for calculus, and he was great at explaining concepts. He was a kind, patient, friendly instructor and I ended up enjoying calculus. I chose to major in mathematics in large part due to my positive experiences at COCC."

Lyle says he felt well-prepared for upper division classes after transferring to Oregon State University: "I clearly recall my first math exam at OSU. A student from Mt. Hood Community College and I earned the highest scores on the first exam! I knew then that COCC had prepared me for success at a four-year school."

Lyle earned a bachelor's degree in math and math education at Oregon State University. After several years teaching at Philomath High School, he returned to school to earn master's and doctorate degrees, both in mathematics at Washington State University. After finishing his graduate work, he taught for a couple of years at Fresno Pacific University in California before obtaining his present position at Whitworth University in Spokane in 1995.

Lyle says it's impossible to choose a favorite class. "I like



Lyle Cochran

Photo by: Greg Moser

all the mathematic classes that I teach. Each class offers a unique perspective, and the variety of classes that I teach keeps things interesting. And I love using technology in the classroom."

For example, he uses mathematical animations together with the interactive animations in the textbook to help students better see and understand the important concepts of calculus. He also uses an iPad to create lectures and lesson materials and deliver lectures. This allows him to make more efficient use of class time, which gives students the opportunity to work on problems during class.

In order to create a geometric and intuitive calculus textbook, Lyle collaborated with three other math instructors: Bill Briggs (the lead author), Bernard Gillett (University of Colorado) and Eric Schulz (Walla Walla Community College). Published in 2011, the book has been well received, with more than 200 colleges and universities currently using it.

Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program Events



Photo by Joel Preston Smith

Night of a Thousand Stars and Other Portraits of Iraq

Joel Preston Smith

January 31, 6:30 p.m.

Hitchcock Auditorium, Pioneer Hall, COCC Bend Campus

Joel Preston Smith is a freelance writer, photographer and artist who served as a photojournalist in the U.S. Army and later as a civilian on humanitarian-aid missions to Rwanda, Honduras, Palestine and Iraq. He uses his photographs to challenge his audience to question how racism, xenophobia and media bias have played a role in leading us to prejudge Middle Eastern societies. His images, portraying both Iraqis and U.S. soldiers as human beings, are in sharp contrast to the images of violence that have been the primary subject of foreign journalism. Supported by the U.S. Institute of Peace Public Education for Peacebuilding Support Initiative.

Nonviolence and Social Justice: Lessons I Learned from my Grandfather

Arun Gandhi

February 20, 6:30 p.m.

Wille Hall, Campus Center, COCC Bend Campus
Private reception to follow presentation; cost is \$25.*

When Arun Gandhi was 12 years old, he went to live with his grandfather, Mahatma Gandhi. Arun shares the simple, yet powerful, lessons that Mahatma taught him; lessons that made him aware of the depth and breadth of the philosophy of nonviolence and how we can become the change we wish to see in the world.



Arun Gandhi

Born in 1934 in Durban, South Africa, Arun is the fifth grandson of India's legendary leader, Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi. Growing up under the discriminatory apartheid laws of South Africa, Arun was beaten by "white" South Africans for being too black and "black" South Africans for being too white and sought eye-for-an-eye justice.

However, he learned from his parents and grandparents that justice does not mean revenge.

Mahatma taught Arun to understand nonviolence through understanding violence: "If we know how much passive violence we perpetrate against one another, we will understand why there is so much physical violence plaguing societies and the world." Through daily lessons, Arun says, he learned about violence and about anger.

Arun shares these lessons, speaking to diverse audiences across the globe. He is very involved in social programs as well. Together with his wife Sunanda, Arun started projects for the social and economic uplifting of the oppressed in more than 300 villages throughout India. In 2008 Arun launched the Gandhi Worldwide Education Institute in the U.S. to promote community building in economically depressed areas of the world through the joining of Gandhi's philosophy and vocational education for children and their parents. He has authored several books, including "A Patch of White" about life in prejudiced South Africa and edited a collection of essays, "World Without Violence: Can Gandhi's Vision Become Reality?"



Daniel Morris

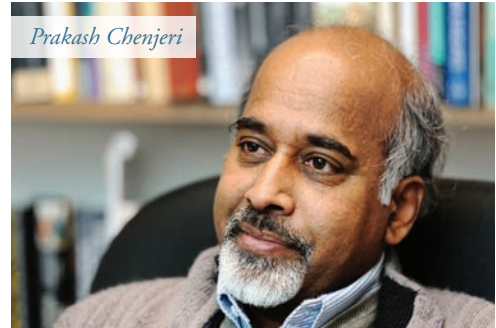
Debating Fairly: Civility, Disagreement, and Democracy

Professors Daniel Morris and Prakash Chenjeri,
Southern Oregon University

February 27, 6:30 p.m.

Wille Hall, Campus Center, COCC Bend Campus

Healthy debate and disagreement are at the heart of a vibrant democracy. Yet contemporary culture seems to be marked by increasing incivility. If civility defines the standard of behavior expected in human interaction, how can we promote a greater respect for one another? Recent elections—as well as the current state of public discourse in general—offer a unique opportunity to critically examine and discuss this important and timely topic. Southern Oregon University professors Daniel Morris and Prakash Chenjeri will facilitate a conversation exploring what it means to be civil and to examine the related ideas of civil society, civic life and citizenship. This is an Oregon Humanities Conversation Project.



Prakash Chenjeri

No Shortcuts to the Top: Setting Goals, Managing Risk and Persevering

Ed Viesturs, mountaineer

April 16, 6:30 p.m.

Summit High Auditorium

8 p.m. reception

Tickets available March 1*

Widely regarded as this country's foremost high-altitude mountaineer, Ed Viesturs has successfully reached the summits of all fourteen of the world's 8,000-meter peaks without the use of supplemental oxygen. He is one of only a handful of climbers in history (and the only American) to accomplish this. Demonstrated through compelling stories and stunning photography, Viesturs will share his philosophy on setting goals, managing risk and persevering, all lessons applicable to undertaking any challenging endeavor.



Ed Viesturs

*Please contact Karen Aylward at 541-383-7257 for details and to register.

Events are FREE unless indicated otherwise.

If you would like to receive emails about these and other events of the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program, please contact Karen Aylward at kaylward@cocc.edu or 541-383-7257.

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Taste of the Town and Meal of the Year

(Continued from page 5)

moving here several years ago, and we are so pleased that they are allowing us to honor them in this way,” said Jim Weaver, executive director of the COCC Foundation.

Friday night’s Taste of the Town will showcase some of your favorite local restaurants, which will be offering bite-size samples of food. Complementing the delicious food will be plenty of music by the band Pressure Point and an opportunity to dance the night away. The event begins at 6 p.m. in the Mazama Gymnasium on the COCC Bend campus. Tickets are \$25 per person in advance or \$30 at the door.

On Saturday, the Meal of the Year dinner will be created and served by Cascade Culinary Institute students and chefs. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at the Mazama Gymnasium. Tickets are \$125 per person or \$1,250 for a corporate table of 10. For reservations, contact the COCC Foundation at 541-318-3783.

Central Oregon Community
College Foundation cordially invites you to the

**38th Annual
Taste of the Town
and
Meal of the Year**

March 1 & 2, 2013
Mazama Gymnasium

www.cocc.edu/Foundation-Events

For sponsorship opportunities, please visit our website:
www.cocc.edu/Foundation-Events