

## Monthly News from Portland Community College

August 2015

### ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

#### Cascade Campus

- In July and August, demolition of the Cascade Student Center and Student Service Building remodel moved into full swing as the 50+ year old center came down. While construction has meant moves and some disruption, offices are open and staff is working hard to direct and serve students through the summer. The bond remodel of SSB is slated to finish on time and be fully reopened for fall term.
- For Cascade's annual National Night Out celebration on August 4 the campus and Albina Killingsworth Safe Neighborhood Council, which Cascade coordinates, collaborated with the Piedmont and Humboldt Neighborhood Associations. The event, hosted at Peninsula Park, drew about 200 attendees for food, fun, and special appearances from one of our fire engines and Poppe the PCC Panther. Cascade's presence included a booth with information about the campus and how to get registered and enrolled.
- Development of a new Queer Resource Center for LGBT students, faculty, and staff is underway in the Student Union. The Cascade Q Center opening is planned for October 12th.

#### Rock Creek Campus

- Geoscience faculty from Rock Creek and 16 other community colleges across the country will participate in the NSF funded program *Faculty as Change Agents: Transforming Geoscience Education in Two-Year Colleges*. The four-year project provides professional development activities for faculty focused on student success. Science and Technology Dean Betsy Julian will lead the effort for Rock Creek.
- The Rock Creek Biology faculty coordinated a day-long strawberry DNA activity August 4 with Adelante Chicas at a summer camp sponsored by Pacific University. The Science & Technology Division will also facilitate a week-long STEM camp with Adelante Chicas August 17-21. Adelante Chicas is part of the Adelante Mujeres youth development program.
- Dorina Cornea-Hasegan, Rock Creek microelectronics instructor, was a co-presenter at the recent SEMI High Tech U conference July 27-30, a unique STEM-focused career related program for high school students featuring hands-on activities in nanotechnology and micro technology. SEMI High Tech U provides a unique model of partnerships between industry, community colleges, and high schools.
- Rock Creek art faculty member Mark Andres has directed an animated a feature-length film titled, *The Somnambulists*. It was honored as the Best Animated Film for 2015 at the Independent Filmmakers Showcase in Los Angeles in May and Mark was invited to show the film at this year's Columbia Gorge International Film Festival August 9.
- Alex Panyasiri is a PCC student studying aviation maintenance at Rock Creek. He is also a Ninja Warrior, a title he earned on July 6 when he successfully competed on the NBC program *American Ninja Warrior*, a night to honor men and women in the military. He advanced to the next round which was broadcast Monday, August 17 on NBC. He could become PCC's first Ninja Panther.
- Thirty-three PCC employees enrolled in the free FEMA-certified Campus Community Emergency Response Team (C-CERT) training at Rock Creek Campus that began August 13. The five-day, 28-hour

training is under the direction of Dr. Alyson Lighthart, Division Dean at Cascade Campus. One result of the training provides the campus with a core group of trained personnel should a major disaster hit. Twenty-five employees from the Cascade Campus have also completed the training.

- The second annual PCC Night at the Hops event was perfect. The weather was perfect, the Hops 8-4 win over Boise was perfect, and the 73 PCC folks who showed up for the fun were also perfect. We'll do this again next year.
- Community partners were the focus of the sixth annual Rock Creek leadership "Listening Tour" that visited the test kitchen at Reser's Fine Foods, Vernier Software & Technology, and Columbia Sportswear on July 13. The retreat ended at Brannon's Pub & Brewery where Beaverton Mayor Denny Doyle talked about Beaverton development and current opportunities for partnerships.

### **Southeast Campus**

- The Southeast Campus STEM Center hosted local middle school students from surrounding neighborhoods for a 4-day Smart Bike Helmet summer camp. On July 23, the students learned how to make smart bicycle helmets using 3D printing, electronics, and Arduino programming. The helmets they built were equipped with an accelerometer that automatically detects when they hit the brakes and engages a brake light on the back of the helmet. This helps solve the problem of biker visibility and safety. This camp was a joint venture with the PCC Southeast STEM Center the PCC Sylvania Makerspace, 4H, and the Montavilla Young Makers club.
- Saturday July 25, Southeast Campus partnered with the Jade District Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative to host a community garden work party. Members of the Jade District, the Southeast campus ASPCC, and Southeast campus Administration joined community members to work, clean, and beautify the student garden at Harrison Elementary School.
- On July 31, the Southeast Campus hosted middle school students from the Latino Network for a STEM Challenge. Participating students were exposed to career paths and educational programs in which people of color are traditionally under-represented: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The students were given a brief introduction of atoms and electricity before they began building their own circuits with conductive copper tape, Chibitronics sticker LEDs, and simple watch batteries.

### **Sylvania Campus**

- The 2015 HI-TEC national conference on advanced technological education took place last week and several Sylvania faculty attended, including Cara Tang and Jim Santmyer. The conference is for secondary and postsecondary educators, counselors, industry professionals, trade organizations, and technicians to update their knowledge and skills. Charged with educating America's technical workforce, the event focuses on the preparation needed by the existing and future workforce for companies in the high-tech sectors that drive our nation's economy.
- Sylvania student Lucas Conedera, who studied Japanese, Chinese, and architectural design at PCC, has accepted and completed a three-month architectural internship in Beijing. Lucas is now preparing to return to China to pursue further study at the Beijing University of Technology.
- Cherie Maas-Anderson, Instructional Administrative Assistant in English and World Languages at the Sylvania Campus, has been elected to the American Association of Women in Community Colleges Board of Directors for 2015-16.

## **Newberg Center**

- Enrollment is up 17 percent at the Newberg Center. Newberg staff were out greeting people at the Newberg Old Fashioned Festival, Sherwood Robin Hood Festival, and Newberg Tunes on Tuesday events.

## **Swan Island Trades Center**

- Recently the Swan Island Trades Center facility has drawn the interest of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Daimler Technology. Both organizations toured the center and discussions are underway about potential training programs/collaborations.

## **ACTING PRESIDENT ACTIVITIES**

- July 27-29 • Attended an Employee Engagement Conference in San Francisco.
- August 3-5 • Participated in the Oregon Presidents' Council retreat in Oregon City.

## **COLLEGE-WIDE ACTIVITIES**

### **Financial Aid**

- As of August 1, 2015 Financial Aid has made 17,477 awards to students for the 2015-16 academic year in the amount of \$195,321,512.
- In 2014-15, we received fewer applications (3,637; -5.7%) than in 2013-14, but made more awards (31,583) to students indicating that the applications we receive continue for students who are more likely to attend.

#### **2015-16 to Date**

Pell .....	\$66,413,051
OOG.....	\$13,330,529
SEOG .....	\$1,459,800
FWS .....	\$1,182,549
SUB.....	\$47,704,175
USUB .....	\$65,231,408

### **Grants Office**

- **US Department of Education – TRiO Student Support Services at Cascade - \$1,100,000 over 5 years**  
The Cascade Campus will continue its very successful TRiO Student Support Services (formerly Cascade ROOTS) program. The purpose of the proposed program is to increase the retention, graduation, and transfer rates of academically under-prepared, low-income, and first-generation students and students with disabilities, and to foster an institutional climate that supports those students. One hundred and forty students will be served per year, including intensive academic advising, financial aid advocacy, scholarship advising and assistance, student assessment, degree and transfer audits, college skills building, career exploration and development, student advocacy, enhanced student leadership opportunities, and cohort educational experiences.

### **Advancement/Foundation**

- The PCC Foundation Web Page was refreshed, including Foundation Board web profiles with photos and updated student success stories.

- Interviews have concluded for the Development Director and Foundation Assistant Positions. Ann Prater joined us as the Development Director on August 17.
- The Foundation hosted 60 donors and guests to join the PCC Robotics Camps for a meet and greet and luncheon with the students on July 9.

### **Government Relations**

- Government relations staff had the chance to meet recently with Congresswoman Bonamici's education policy advisors to discuss reauthorization of the federal Higher Education Act, as well as STEAM programs. Student success initiatives were a focus of conversation.
- Government relations is beginning to work closely with the Bond Office and others to advocate for better serving the Sylvania campus with rapid transit as METRO begins to focus their efforts on the SW Corridor.
- The Oregon Legislature was able to invest new money in several areas in which PCC may wish to apply for grants. Government Relations is working to identify those opportunities and facilitate partnerships when possible.

### **Communications**

- Communications staff is deep in preparation for College In-service, crafting a program to set the tone for the school year, working with speakers and coordinating talking points, planning breakout sessions to be led by members of the College Board, producing a promotional video, and many other event details. This year's theme is "Panther Pride." We expect roughly 1,200 college employees to attend on September 14, representing PCC's largest internal gathering of the upcoming year.
- The fall issue of Communities Magazine has just been sent to print. This issue, due in homes the end of August, features the story of a graduate from PCC's zoology program: the student is now employed at the Oregon Zoo, working with the big cats exhibit. The magazine also features stories of our Veterans Resources Center, a PCC scholarship student headed to Yale, the new kitchen at Southeast Campus and many others.
- Marketing had completed a number of projects this summer to help programs be ready for the new school year, including new slates of promotional materials for the Links Program, Outreach and Orientation Coordinators, Veterinary Technology Program, and Future Connect.

### **AWARDS and HONORS**

- Newberg student Bethany Quist was honored with a scholarship by the Newberg Rotary to attend a Youth Leadership Award seminar from July 11 to 17 at the Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett, OR. The retreat provides young people the opportunity expand their perceptions and ideals about leadership, enhance their communications skills and explore conflict resolution. Bethany, who works at Newberg as a student services assistant, is working on a non-profit certification at PCC. Her goal is to transfer to Linfield College and eventually Pepperdine University, where she plans to pursue a doctorate in organizational leadership or non-profit management.

## IN THE NEWS

- July 2: **Portland Tribune**. PCC graduate Frances Fagan takes extraordinary path to Yale.
- July 4: **GoLocalPDX**. Bill passed to waive community college tuition strikes close to home for PCC students.
- July 8: **Hillsboro Argus**. Child care returns to PCC's Rock Creek Campus after complaints.
- July 14: **Portland Tribune & Forest Grove News-Times**. Free community college? Well, not really, according to this story. PCC officials say new program will be limited.
- July 16: **Lake Oswego Review**. In a Pamplin Media Group editorial, the paper stated that Oregon's promise of a free community college education doesn't go far enough and cited that 2,200 PCC students would qualify.
- July 16: **Portland Business Journal & Willamette Week**. PCC taps higher-up as interim president.
- July 17: **The Oregonian**. Sylvia Kelley becomes PCC interim president following Jeremy Brown's departure.
- July 17: **Portland Tribune & Forest Grove News-Times**. Sylvia Kelley named interim Portland Community College president.
- July 23: **Portland Tribune**. The Oregon Promise will be welcomed by thousands of prospective students (up to the two-year \$10 million cap), it simply doesn't go far enough.
- July 24: **OPB**. The largest college in Oregon, Portland Community College, saw combined local and state funding jump more than 20 percent.
- July 24: **The Oregonian**. Portland Community College's Board of Directors has appointed Sylvia Kelley as the college's interim president while a national search is conducted for its next permanent president.