

Monthly News from Portland Community College

November 2015

ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

Cascade Campus

- Cascade Campus entered a new era in October with the grand opening of the Cascade Queer Resource Center (QRC). For the first time, members of the Cascade LGBTQ community have a space on campus dedicated to their needs, where they can feel safe and supported. The grand opening celebration was highlighted by an appearance by Oregon Speaker of the House Tina Kotek, and also featured remarks from Campus President Karin Edwards, Student Leadership Coordinator Kendi Esary, and several student QRC advocates.
- Cascade Campus hosted a special open house for the VetSuccess on Campus Program in October. The event, which featured remarks from Campus President Karin Edwards and Director of the US Dept of Veterans Affairs regional office for Oregon and Alaska Will Streitberger highlighted the many support services available to student veterans across the college. Also featured during the open house were two unique exhibits: "War Ink," a surprisingly intimate collection of photographs of service members' tattoos; and the "Remembrance Rug," a handmade tapestry comprised of more than 9,000 symbols, each representing a specific person.
- Cascade hosted a special appearance during October from the editors of "The Breakbeat Poets: New American Poetry in the Age of Hip Hop," a collection of hip hop-themed and -styled poetry. Sponsored by PCC's Office of Professional and Organizational Development, the event offered insight and suggestions on how the broader hip-hop movement might be incorporated into existing curricula across numerous disciplines.
- Also in October, Cascade Campus welcomed back a delegation of visiting Ophthalmic Medical Technology (OMT) students from PCC's sister institution, Osaka Jikei Technical College in Japan. The students visit Cascade each year to learn about the OMT program and to experience a slice of life in the United States.

Rock Creek Campus

- The 15th annual Harvest Festival at Rock Creek on October 17 was a resounding success. More than 1,000 people took advantage of a perfect day to check out hayrides, a petting zoo, pumpkin decorating, games, and music. The favorite destination for almost everyone was the Learning Garden, where guests helped themselves to 1,800 pounds of free pumpkins. The event was sponsored by ASPCC with support from student clubs, the Library, and five campus resource centers.
- For the third time in two years, the Oregon World Affairs Council has included a visit to Rock Creek Campus as part of its curriculum for visiting scholars, educators, and global business representatives. On October 12, seven guests and two interpreters from Russia were greeted by Interim President Sylvia Kelley. Campus President Sandra Fowler-Hill described how community colleges work in the United States and PCC faculty members Usha Ramanujam and Todd Sanders discussed how the college supports sustainability and green jobs.
- On October 19, Rock Creek hosted a "communication breakfast" for PCC employees who live in Columbia County. Led by Campus President Sandra Fowler-Hill, the group discussed the current

status of the proposed PCC Center in Columbia County (site selection expected in November) and how PCC residents might assist the college with ongoing community engagement efforts after the center opens in 2017.

- Rock Creek Campus President Sandra Fowler-Hill discussed PCC's economic influence in Washington County at the October 13 Hillsboro Chamber Luncheon Forum. One impressive bit of data...PCC faculty and staff who live in Washington County generate an annual payroll of more than \$28 million, which, when multiplied by a factor of 3.45, shows that PCC invests more than \$96.5 million a year in property taxes, goods, and services originating within Washington County.
- "ReFocus: The Films of Preston Sturges," a collection of essays edited by Rock Creek English faculty Jeff Jaeckle, was released this month from Edinburgh University Press. Jaeckle used the support from the Betty and Richard Duvall Faculty Professional Development Award he received last year to complete the research for this book. He has been at Rock Creek since 2000.
- The PCC Rock Creek Potters Guild co-sponsored a two-day workshop (with the Oregon Potters Association) with prominent ceramic artist Tom Coleman. The workshop brought many local clay artists to the campus and provided students with an opportunity to learn from a dynamic and highly successful contemporary clay artist.

Southeast Campus

- Southeast Campus ASPCC held a candlelight vigil October 7, along with other campuses and centers across the college, to remember the victims, students, and community of Umpqua Community College. Over 50 students, staff, and faculty showed up and shared time together. Campus President Jessica Howard and PCC Public Safety Sargent Terry Langley spoke at the event.
- Saturday, October 10, local artist Shu-Ju Wang held a reception at the Southeast Campus Student Commons building. More than 35 community members and leaders came together to enjoy the free exhibit and discuss art and inspiration with the artist. Wang's artwork was on display through the end of October as part of the Southeast Campus' goal of engaging the local artist community.
- Monday, October 12, PCC Interim President Sylvia Kelley visited the Southeast Campus and met with campus leadership and students as a part of her goal to engage with students, staff, and faculty around the college. The visit included time with campus managers, a visit to the new YMCA Child Development Center, visits to the Women's Resource Center, the Multicultural Center, a tour of the Southeast Campus Answer Center, and an in-depth conversation with Tricia Brand, Southeast Campus Associate Dean of Student Development. Following the campus tour, Kelley had lunch with six ASPCC student leaders and the Director of Student Life and Leadership Programs Josh Peters-McBride at Old School Coffee, one of the new PCC Bond-supported retail spaces at Southeast Campus.
- Saturday, October 24, over 70 students, staff, faculty, and community members came together for the first annual BIG Community Clean Up. Originating from the PCC Southeast Campus Public Safety meetings that occur with community partners in an effort to garner community connectedness, more than nine local entities came together to make the event a success, including the Jade District, Montavilla Neighborhood Association, South Tabor Neighborhood Association, 82nd Avenue of Roses Business Association, Warner Pacific College, Old School Coffee, Harrison Park School, City of Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement, and the SOLVE organization. Southeast Campus President Jessica Howard attended, along with other campus leaders and the Southeast ASPCC showed up to bolster the event's volunteer base.

Sylvania Campus

- The Sylvania Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting programs are participating in a new program for fourth year dental students at OHSU. Starting winter 2016, Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene students and faculty will be traveling to the new OHSU Dental School at the southwest waterfront location to work on patients. OHSU is working to create a simulated practice setting in which students learn how to work with Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists just as they would in private practice. This will be valuable experience for PCC's Dental Assistant and Dental Hygiene students. It also gives exposure to OHSU students and helps highlight a pathway to becoming a dentist for those who are inspired to do so. Students will have connections to dentists who may be hiring Dental Assistants and/or Dental Hygienist for their private practices at the time our students are becoming licensed and seeking employment.
- Sylvania's Medical Imaging bond work is now complete. The program progressed from using 30-year-old, antiquated tools to one with the newest, cutting-edge digital imaging equipment. Faculty and staff feel this is an amazing transformation and will be looking to organize a foundation event to bring alumni, industry partners, and Board members to the PCC Medical Imaging lab to celebrate the new equipment.
- Clifford Meeks of Sylvania's Multicultural Center participated in a news conference October 15 at Portland City Hall highlighting the work of the Black Male Achievement Initiative. As a member of the steering committee, Dr. Meeks was asked to highlight the work he performs at PCC as it relates to the Men of Color Leadership Program. The Black Male Achievement Initiative is an effort endorsed by the City of Portland and the Mayor's Office in conjunction with the National League of Cities to improve outcomes for black men and boys in four specific focus areas: education, employment, family stability, and criminal justice.
- Sylvania Campus opened its first Queer Resource Center in October. Located in the Women's Resource Center, it advocates for, supports, and empowers students, faculty, staff, and alumni of all sexualities, sexes, gender identities, and gender expressions. Center staff and volunteers provide a safe, welcoming space that offers both academic and personal support to PCC's LGBTQ and Ally communities. Bobby Waldner will lead Sylvania's efforts, which also include educational outreach and a variety of events.
- Sylvania Campus is hosting a series of meetings with local neighborhood associations to discuss the Southwest Corridor Plan. Representatives of the Far Southwest, Ashcreek, and West Portland Park Neighborhood Associations, as well as the Mountain Park Homeowners Association are gathering to discuss possible impacts associated with the implementation of the Southwest Corridor Plan. The meetings provide an opportunity to share thoughts about possible transit modes and alignment options under consideration and how they could best benefit and bring positive change to their respective organizations while minimizing negative impact.

COLLEGE-WIDE ACTIVITIES

PCC Foundation

- The Foundation is delighted to announce that over 1,200 scholarships have been awarded to deserving students – totaling \$1.33 million dollars! Approximately 80% of our scholarship recipients are the first in their families to attend college. We also recognize – with deep gratitude – the more than 40 volunteers who lent their time and energy to read through the hundreds of student applications. In fact, the PCC Foundation received nearly 2,800 applications, up 40% from the

previous year. We invite our Board to help continue this success by contributing to our annual fall campaign or by joining us as a sponsor at our April 16th Think Pink Gala.

AWARDS and HONORS

- Eleven Sylvania students were awarded \$5,000 grants from the Oregon Space Grant Consortium this year. The Consortium, a member of the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program, is a national network of colleges and universities that work together to expand opportunities for Americans to understand and participate in NASA's aeronautics and space projects. The Consortium is normally able to award a dozen \$5,000 grants to community colleges, but because NASA is particularly interested in community college students, OSGC applied for and was awarded funding for 40 grants for the 2015-2016 academic year, 27 of which went to PCC students.
- Sylvania student Andrew Jozwiak is one of three PCC NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars, and one of 160 national scholars who earned the opportunity to visit a NASA Space Center. Andrew's work, entitled "Red Planet: Dead or Alive?" earned him the opportunity to work with scientists at the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL, where he and a team designed a Mars Rover. A member of Phi Theta Kappa, the President's List, and a course developer and lab assistant for the college's first online astronomy classes working toward his associate degree in science, Andrew keeps earning accolades. While at the Rocket Center, Andrew and his group's Rover won the title for Best Engineering Team. Andrew is certainly a rising star at PCC. He was also a winner of a \$5,000 grant from the Oregon Space Grant Consortium (see above) and was awarded a \$3,000 grant from the PCC Foundation this year.
- The ongoing community safety efforts of the Cascade Campus-based Albina-Killingsworth Safe Neighborhood Commission (AKSNC) were named runner-up for the Herman Goldstein Problem-Oriented Policing Award, a competition among the most effective and innovative community policing initiatives around the world. One of five finalists for the award, the AKSNC finished second only to a submission from the Metropolitan Police of London (UK). The award results were announced at a ceremony held in Portland. The AKSNC, formed in 2006, is a collaborative effort between PCC, the Portland Police Bureau, the Multnomah Co. DA's office, Jefferson High School, and local residents and businesses aimed at creating a more livable neighborhood in the area surrounding Cascade Campus.
- Rock Creek Campus Sustainability Coordinator Elaine Cole and Learning Garden Coordinator Nora Lindsey traveled to Minneapolis, MN October 25 to accept the first-place prize at the annual Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) conference. Their case study, "Food Insecurity at the Student Level," was voted best community college entry in the nation. The AASHE conference, with 2,000 attendees, is the largest campus sustainability conference in North America.
- Virginia Chambers, full-time faculty/Project Director in Medical Assisting, was recently named the 2015 winner of the Educator of the Year award by the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA). She was presented with the award in front of five hundred Medical Assistants across the nation. Virginia was chosen as an educator who has a green thumb for cultivating excellence. From her classroom to her involvement in AAMA on the local, state, and national levels, her tireless efforts reap not only success but tremendous admiration. Her eloquence, unwavering commitment to continual improvement, and contagious passion never cease to inspire others. Colleagues speak of her dedication, both as an educator and as a leader, to challenge programs and people to be better. As an educator, she is nurturing in a way that keeps her close enough to

students to hold students accountable but distant enough to give them freedom to grow into themselves. As one colleague and former student wrote, “She has an uncanny ability to bring out the best in her students.”

GRANT ACTIVITY

- **Foundation Grants:**
 - The PCC Foundation is proud to announce a recent \$25,000 grant from Intel award to engage under-served high school students in STEAM programs at PCC (up from their \$20,000 awarded in 2013 and 2014).
 - \$5,000 grant from Union Bank to support the Portland Teachers Program
 - \$7,500 increase from US Bank to support Future Connect
 - \$33,000 in-kind donation of science, chemistry, and biology supplies and equipment from Dow ArgoSciences that will benefit faculty and students at PCC’s Sylvania and Rock Creek campuses.
- **Worksystems, Inc. - Sector Pathway – Healthcare Target Industry Bridge Course Design & Delivery - \$138,946**

Career Pathways will develop and deliver target industry bridge courses that provide a bridge from basic skills sufficiency and career awareness to career pathway employment in the healthcare industry sector for youth ages 16-24. The grant will cover two cohorts of 25 students (50 students total) over two years.
- **Oregon Dept. of Community Colleges & Workforce Development – Career Pathways Host College Coordination - \$ TBD**

To fund and house a Statewide Career Pathways Coordinator to work with all 17 Oregon community colleges in administering their Career Pathways programs.
- **Oregon Dept. of Agriculture - Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - \$20,000**

Oregon State University Extension Service will join with three leading partner agencies to expand the reach and effectiveness of training for beginning specialty crop operators in the Portland metro area. Specifically, we will integrate and strengthen existing programming to develop the skills of the next generation of fruit, vegetable, and cut flower farmers. Our effort will expand the impact of the proven Beginning Urban Farmer Apprenticeship (BUFA) program, reaching new audiences and greater numbers of participants.
- **Worksystems, Inc. - Reboot NW - \$540,000**

This project is designed to prepare individuals who are experiencing long-term (6 months +) unemployment, underemployment, and military veterans for employment in the manufacturing and IT/software occupations. PCC will design and implement “Career Link” courses, which are 75-hour trainings offered over 3 weeks. The trainings provide manufacturing and tech industry exploration and career exposure activities. It includes career coaching and other services to help individuals overcome some of the personal challenges associated with long periods of unemployment. Trainings will be provided at various locations in Multnomah and Washington counties, and we will subcontract with Mt. Hood Community College for trainings in East Portland.

IN THE NEWS

- Oct. 1: **Beaverton Valley Times**. Rock Creek custodian' Ron Beer's message is making an impact.
- Oct. 5: **KGW TV**. Tim Gordon reported on PCC has robust alert systems in place to notify students of campus emergencies.
- Oct. 6: **Portland Tribune**. Portland Community College held a moment of silence Friday at noon in honor of the victims of the Umpqua Community College shooting. Sylvania Campus President Lisa Avery led the Sylvania moment of silence.
- Oct. 6: **Business Tribune**. Jackie Babicky Peterson was highlighted for her state star award that recognized her SBDC advising efforts.
- Oct. 8: **KPTV**. Students, staff, and community members gathered Wednesday night to light nine candles for each of the Umpqua Community College shooting victim at Portland Community College.
- Oct. 8: **Lake Oswego Review**. In PCC's Senior Studies Institute, older adults find friendship and fulfillment through continuing education.
- Oct. 12: **The Oregonian**. More key decisions will be made in coming months on the SW Corridor plan, such as whether an expensive tunnel serving Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus will be included.
- Oct. 13: **The Oregonian**. Sen. Michael Dembrow, D-Portland, a longtime Portland Community College English instructor, filed a bill in 2013 that would have allowed community colleges to form police departments with armed officers.
- Oct. 13: **Portland Tribune**. This summer, the Institute for Health Professions through the Portland Community College's CLIMB Center for Advancement served as the Antarctic training center that provided basic life support and advanced cardiac life support training at the McMurdo community in July.
- Oct. 16: **The Oregonian**. Story explores if there's another aerial tram in the offing for Portland's skyline as part of the Southwest Corridor near PCC's Sylvania Campus.
- Oct. 17: **The Oregonian**. Pumpkins, hayrides and farm animals: Children have it all at PCC harvest festival.
- Oct. 21: **Portland Business Journal**. Vigor Industrial aggressively cultivates every hiring edge, including funding welding programs at Portland Community College, where they snap-up 40 percent of the available graduates.
- Oct. 21: **KOIN**. Reporter highlighted the Oregon Promise and how it will provide students with free community college. He talked to a few Cascade Campus students about it.
- Oct. 22: **Hillsboro Tribune**. Rep. Joe Gallegos wrote an OpEd about his chief-sponsored Future Connect bill that was based on PCC's program.
- Oct. 23: **Portland Tribune**. Portland State University may launch initiative petition for regional payroll tax to develop funding streams comparable to PCC.

- Oct. 26: **The Oregonian**. Portland State seeks to increase supply of lactation consultants with new program it took over from PCC.
- Oct. 27: **Portland Tribune**. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has tapped three Portland Community College students for an adventure in Martian science.