

'An incredibly rewarding experience'

CCC President Leah Bornstein leaves to helm Aims Community College in Colorado.

Her journey to become a president at Coconino Community College is the story of her life, she said.

And now, after eight years at the helm of CCC, the journey continues. In early May, Dr. Bornstein, the fifth president of CCC, accepted the job to be president of Aims Community College in Greeley, Colo.

"It's time for me professionally to take the next step," Bornstein said. "And it's a good time for the college for a leadership change."

CCC has a strategic plan to weather the next five years financially, a supportive community and excellent leadership and staff to carry the momentum of the work that has been accomplished toward creating an exemplary student experience that fosters success.

Immediate past District Governing Board Chairman Patrick Hurley said, "Dr. Bornstein was the right leader at the right time for the college, and she will always be remembered for her intelligence, wit and taking the college to

a greater level. She is the most outstanding college president that I have ever been associated with."

Current Chairman Patricia Garcia added, "Filling Dr. Bornstein's position will not be an easy task. Her grace, good humor and exceptional professional skills and abilities will be greatly missed. Building on the solid foundation left by Dr. Bornstein, the District



Leah Bornstein

Governing Board is prepared to launch a search for our next president."

JOURNEY BEGINS

Bornstein said she started working at age 10 while her mother, on welfare, worked for the school system where they lived.

"It was clear to me that the only way up and out was education," she added.

She wanted to become a doctor, and she attended university on merit- and needs-based scholarships. She worked five jobs and sent money home to her family. Her studies took her from pre-med to psychology, and at her first job after she graduated, she offered substance abuse services at a halfway house before deciding to continue her education.

During a meeting with

her university mentor, she was reminded how much she loved the college life. Her mentor told her to consider a career in higher education. Bornstein said her sights were on dean, and her mentor said to her, "Why not president?" They mapped out a route to that goal together, and she worked toward it.

"It was a deliberate path," Bornstein said.

CCC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

What will she miss most about CCC?

"The people here are amazing," Bornstein said. "They're professional and passionate and do the most they can with the resources available,

See **BORNSTEIN**, Page 4

Palette to Palate supports scholarships



CCC student Ben Craigie poses with the signature art piece for the 2015 Palette to Palate event in Flagstaff.

The real winners of Palette to Palate

They work in two and three dimensions. Their tools are acrylics, paper, colored pencils, charcoal, canvas, cameras and clay.

The fine art students at Coconino Community College are the real winners of the annual Palette to Palate event. Each year, the spring Student Art Show coincides with the event in order to showcase the student work to the Palette to Palate attendees who come to support the Fine Arts Department.

Proceeds from Palette to Palate fund needed equipment, facility upgrades and student scholarships. The proceeds also support student visits to art museums and exhibits they otherwise would never get to experience.

"It's nice that the visitors to Palette to Palate can see the student work," said Alan Petersen, CCC Fine Arts and Colorado Plateau Studies instructor. "This spring went exceptionally well. The Student Art Show had a lot of quality work. Right now we have a lot of really talented students."

The signature piece in the Palette to Palate live auction is chosen by committee from a selection of works by students that are entered into the running.

A Student Art Show is featured each semester, Petersen said. The spring show tends to be larger than the fall show, and the shows contain between 40 and 60 pieces. Each student can exhibit up to two works. Pieces submitted are usually paintings, drawings, ceramics and photographs.

Petersen said the Student Art Show has specific goals. It offers an opportunity for students to share their work; to give them experience in being in a more public setting for résumé building; to show them what it takes to present their work; and to help with building confidence that transfers to other spheres of the students' education.

All students are eligible to submit work to the Student Art Show, and they are often encouraged by faculty to do so.

"We try to be totally inclusive," Petersen said.

See **PALETTE**, Page 4

Good art. Good food. Good cause. The 13th annual Palette to Palate fundraiser for the Coconino Community College Fine Arts Department raised more than \$13,200 this year.

"I think it's the best yet," said Alan Petersen, CCC Fine Arts and Colorado Plateau Studies instructor. "We had a great audience. We had some great artwork. We raised a significant amount of money, and I think the people who came had a great time."

Nearly 300 people attended. The event features artwork donated by local artists that are auctioned off, and food dishes by local restaurants that undergo competition in three categories – best presentation, best hors d'oeuvre and best

dessert.

Eighteen live-auction pieces were showcased at the event. The proceeds go to the Fine Arts Program at the college for supplies, materials and scholarships for fine art students. Bids for the artwork started at \$100. The top piece of artwork, "Bracing the Coast" by Flagstaff artist Shonto Begay, sold for \$1,500 to Flagstaff resident Sara Herron.

Herron said, "The arts are incredibly important to the College and community and it is equally important to support the two. I am in an artistic profession and it's always exciting to see what the students come up with. I was honored to be the successful bidder on the piece Shonto Begay contributed to the event and proudly added it to my

own private collection of local art."

Begay said, "I find a lot of my own young people begin their success there. I think it's a wonderful thing, and I like to support that."

Begay added that CCC is an asset to Flagstaff and Coconino County.

"Being an artist, supporting a fine arts program creates an easier way into the arts, and it's something I support," Begay said.

Begay also said that he still remembers painting "Bracing the Coast" in plain air, his face cooled by a breeze from the Pacific Ocean while he put brush to canvas at the edge of Point Lobo in northern California.

"I hope that breeze brings comfort

Faculty of the Year for 2015-16 selected

One helps students paint a picture with words; the other with a brush.

Yet there is a common bond: Coconino Community College students nominated them for faculty of the year 2015-16. English faculty Sandra Dihlmann Lunday gets the nod for full-time Faculty of the Year, and Art faculty Elaine Dillingham gets part-time Faculty of the Year.

SANDRA DIHLMANN LUNDAY

Dihlmann has been teaching composition and creative writing at CCC for the last 15 years – five of those part time.

She said she sees her job more as conduit to help students empower themselves, and to help "light a fire," rather than "fill a pail," as described by poet W.B. Yeats.

The key for Dihlmann is

removing rote memorization and, instead, having a dialogue with the students, so they can fully understand connections and think critically.

"On the one hand, I'm honored to receive the thoughtful acknowledgement from students and my peers," Dihlmann said of being selected as teacher of the year. "Because English Composition is a required course, it can be challenging to inspire students to enjoy reading, writing and researching, so I sincerely appreciate the time and effort the students took to nominate me. On the other hand, teaching is a team effort, and this honor represents the hard work of all faculty and staff at the college."

Student Dylan Weatherhead wrote in his nominating form, "Sandy's love of writing and literature really comes through in her

lectures. I could tell by her feedback that she appreciated the work and effort that the students put in on their presentations and essays."

Student Melissa Murphy wrote, "Her enthusiasm toward her students and her job are outstanding in so many different ways. She always comes into class happy and upbeat when she is teaching ..."

"I find my greatest job in discussing ideas with a diverse student body and gaining new and different perspectives concerning the material we read," Dihlmann said. "If I'm learning, then I know the students in the classroom are, too."

Dihlmann earned her bachelor's degree in English from NAU in 1997. She completed graduate work in The Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins University in 1999.

See **FACULTY**, Page 4



Left, Elaine Dillingham poses with Sandra Dihlmann Lunday holding their awards for Faculty of the Year 2015-16.

Student Success: From rebel to Gold Axe Winner

At one time in her life, she was a rebel who dropped out of high school because she didn't believe in herself.

That has changed.

Coconino Community College graduate Kiara Weathersby graduated May 8 from Northern Arizona University with bachelor's degrees in business management and psychology.

Born and raised in Flagstaff, Weathersby traveled a long road to reach that day. The journey began in 2008, when she was hired to work at Coconino Community College. Her supervisor, Eva Jones, inspired her to get her general equivalency degree, so she did. After that, she started taking classes at CCC.

"I was terrified," Weathersby said. "I didn't believe in myself at all."

Weathersby was part of the pilot program for CCC2NAU in 2008. CCC2NAU is a partnership with Northern Arizona University that allows students to transition seamlessly from CCC to NAU. At her time with CCC, Weathersby said the staff and faculty were incredibly supportive of her and wanted to see her succeed.

She graduated in 2010 with an associate of arts degree in general studies. Right after her graduation from CCC, she began at NAU in the fall of 2010.

"I started out with psychology," Weathersby said.

She wanted to focus on pre-law with an eye toward starting her own law firm. A cousin told her that if she wanted to run her

own law firm, she should have a background in business, especially contract law. She began taking business courses, too.

During the course of her college and university careers, Weathersby has accumulated a number of feathers for her cap. Among them are: President's Medallion Recipient at CCC; Student Worker of the Year at CCC; Student Employee of the Year for the State of Arizona; and Gold Axe Award Recipient at NAU. Her accomplishments include: Student Representative for the CCC College Council; Vice President of Scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa; Vice President for Chapter Operations for Delta Sigma Pi; and executive assistant for the Native American Business Organization. In addition she has participated in the Executive Job Shadow program with the Thunderbirds who host the WM Phoenix Open; and through a competitive selection process she met Warren Buffett on her visit to Omaha, Neb., where she learned how to increase her value through communication. Furthermore, Weathersby received a Bronze medal at the 2015 USA Snowboard & Freeski Association National Championships in the Master Women Slalom as part of the Grand Canyon Series.

Weathersby also traveled to China and India as part of her studies. In India, she, along with 27 other students and faculty, visited a Tibetan Refugee Settlement campus as part of the Mainpat Interdisciplinary Global

Learning Project. In April, she participated in the Global Learning Symposium, where she gave a presentation on her study-abroad research.

Her father, Carl, couldn't attend her graduation. He passed away in 2012.

"His main thing was always, 'Just finish school,'" Weathersby said. "I know he would be proud of me."

Her mother, Geneice, is also proud. Weathersby said her mother also decided to go back to school and received her degree in public administration last May.

She said she enjoyed going to Cline Library at NAU with her mom. They could study together and Weathersby could show her mom the ropes.

"It was pretty awesome," Weathersby said.

She worked the entire time she was in school, and she was recipient of a variety of scholarships to alleviate some of the burden of student debt after graduation.

A job lurks somewhere on the horizon.

"I keep hearing all I need is one," she said, laughing. She credits her support network at CCC and NAU for the networking opportunities.

The ultimate goal is to be a social justice attorney, but her immediate future is to focus on human resources positions because she likes people and advocating for them.

"I've been looking everywhere,"

Weathersby said. "I'm open to relocating because I know I can always come back



CCC2NAU student Kiara Weathersby graduated May 8 from NAU.

home. But it's time to spread my wings, as scary as that is."

When she started her journey, she was terrified. That is no longer the case.

"I've learned to believe in myself," she said.

She added, "There's no way I'd be here without CCC. There's no way." ■

CCC scholarship winners get a hand up

Darrien Benally hails from Flagstaff and wants to combine engineering and environment. Idera Furr-Clark calls Page home and has her sights set on healthy teeth.

These two young women from northern Arizona are among dozens who will be receiving a helping hand this fall.

The Coconino Community College Foundation announced in early May that 60 students were recipients of 77 scholarships worth nearly \$85,920 for the 2015-16 academic year.

ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENT School has been a refuge for Darrien Benally. The troubles at home – substance abuse, domestic violence – fortified her drive to excel at school. "I've always relied on education," Benally said.

That drive has been noticed. Benally received three scholarships to continue her education at Coconino Community College in Flagstaff from the CCC Foundation. She accepted the Hartzell High School scholarship, the K & G.W. scholarship, and a One-Year Raymond Education Foundation scholarship for a total of \$2,845 for the 2015-16 school year.

Benally comes to CCC after graduating from Coconino High School with a grade-point average of 3.5. She will be seeking an Associate of Applied Science degree.

"I was thinking alternative energy and then going into environmental engineering," Benally said. She participated in the Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry and Technology (CAVIAT) program at CCC while in high school and became interested in combining engineering with



Darrien Benally



Idera Furr-Clark

environmental sustainability. She has always been interested in engineering since she was a little girl and has a deep love of animals and the earth.

"It's fulfilling two dreams at once," Benally said.

The scholarships will help her not to rely on financial aid so much as she completes her community college education and transitions to the engineering program at Arizona State University.

Education has been a lifeline to her, and her difficult story can serve as an example to other young people wanting to escape difficult circumstances.

"It's important for me to change the cycle of that," Benally said.

FASCINATION WITH TEETH

Idera Furr-Clark's father finished middle school. Her mother finished high school. She is the first in her family to go to college, and she has been given a boost to make it to the finish line.

Furr-Clark received three scholarships to continue her education at CCC's Page Instructional Site. She recently accepted the Northern Coconino County/Page scholarship, the Page/Lake Powell Chamber of Commerce

scholarship, and a Two-Year Raymond Education Foundation scholarship for a total of \$3,650 for the 2015-16 school year.

"I actually have a chance to live a better life," Furr-Clark said, after hearing the news that she was awarded the scholarships.

She is in her second year at CCC after graduating from Page High School in 2014.

"It was really hard compared to high school," Furr-Clark said, adding that it was worth it. She finished her first year with a 4.0 grade-point average.

In her letter of interest to seek the scholarships, Furr-Clark wrote, "I dream daily of becoming a successful woman. Coming from absolutely nothing gives me a high drive to prove to the world that no matter your background, you have the ability to achieve your goals if you strive for them." Her passion is teeth.

"I just love teeth for some reason," Furr-Clark said, laughing. "I know some people think it's crazy, but I love going to the dentist."

The scholarships will help with tuition and books as she seeks her Associate of Arts degree from CCC before trying to move to ASU.

"It's a blessing," Furr-Clark said. "I never would have thought I could get a scholarship." ■

Student scholarships awarded for 2015-16

The Coconino Community College Foundation announced in early May that 60 students were offered 77 scholarships worth \$85,920 for the 2015-16 academic year.

The Coconino Community College Foundation administers a variety of merit-based scholarships.

The scholarship names are: Theresa M. Alvarado; Antelope Point Marina; APS; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona Nursing; Donald Boston Memorial; CCC2NAU Presidents; CCC2NAU Raymond Educational Foundation; CCC Employee-Funded; Dennis M. Connell; Dream Keeper; JD Feighner; Flagstaff Rotary; Theresa Givens - Soroptimist International of AZ Peaks; Larry Goltz Memorial Accounting; Hartzell Foundation High School; K & G.W. Marshall Knoles; Jason Kurtz Nursing; Life, Liberty & Independence; Dr. Inga Mahler; Northern Coconino County/Page Scholarship; Page/Lake Powell Chamber of Commerce; Palette to Palate Visual Arts; Pepsi; Raymond Educational Foundation; Scarves for Scholarships; Betty Steyskal Life-Long Learning; SRP Navajo Scrubber; Step-Up; United States Marine League; Veterans; City of Williams, AZ.

The CCC Foundation, which receives private gifts, bequests and donations submitted to CCC, supports programs and activities of CCC that promote the objectives of the institution. Those objectives include: Scholarships and financial aid for students; recognition of outstanding scholarship; development of special facilities; awards for special achievement; management and investment of funds; procurement of special equipment; planning for special CCC activities and programs; and development of area-wide interest in support of CCC.

For more information on the Foundation and the scholarships: www.coconinofoundation.org.

CCC Foundation Annual Meeting Sept. 11, 2015

This year's CCC Foundation Annual Meeting, Alumni and Awards Breakfast will be Friday, Sept. 11, 7:30 to 9 a.m., at the Lone Tree Campus Commons, 2800 S. Lone Tree Road.

Guests celebrate student success and share stories from scholarship recipients. The donors who make the scholarships

at CCC possible and lifetime Foundation supporters are also recognized.

Breakfast will be provided by Main Street Catering, and all proceeds benefit the CCC Foundation. Limited seating is available. Please RSVP by Sept. 5 by contacting Brian Harris at brian.harris@coconino.edu, or 928.226.4312.

Page Instructional Site holds Student Awards Ceremony May 12



Idera Furr-Clark receives her scholarship information May 12 at a ceremony at the Page Instructional Site.

Students, faculty and staff gathered at the Page Instructional Site to offer student recognitions and awards.

Jim Hunter, CCC-Page Instructional Site Director, presided over the Student Award Ceremony Tuesday, May 12. Page City Manager Crystal Prentice made a special presentation to an intimate gathering of just over 40 people.

"This is a recognition event that we have had every year here at the Page Site to give area residents who may not be able to travel to Flagstaff another chance to celebrate the achievements of their family members," Hunter said.

He added, "We invite all area

graduates, scholarship winners and Phi Theta Kappa inductees to attend."

First to be recognized was Eric Greenstone, who was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society by Jane Ward, a PTK member and history and humanities instructor.

CCC math instructor Kristin Keisling recognized eight graduates for their accomplishments.

Three students were recognized for receiving scholarships. Idera Furr-Clark received three scholarships. Three other students also received scholarships.

"We're very proud of all of our award winners and very appreciative of the opportunity to look into the faces and meet many of the proud family members," Hunter said. "There really was a wonderful spirit in the room."

Hunter recognized Kristin Keisling as employee of the year before giving remarks to close the ceremony. Keisling's name will be added to a permanent plaque honoring all of the Page Site's past employee-of-the-year winners.

"She has made a marked difference in the retention and success rates in our Math 122 and Math 142 classes, going the extra mile every day," Hunter said. ■

2015 CCC Commencement a hit despite snowy weather

A May snowstorm in Flagstaff couldn't keep the Coconino Community College 2015 Commencement Ceremony from happening.

The event went off without a hitch.

More than 1,000 people attended the ceremony Friday, May 8 at the Lone Tree campus to watch about 120 students receive degrees and certificates. Staff from the IT Department set up a screen in Student Services and piped in the proceedings to several classrooms to accommodate the families of graduates who showed up for the ceremony.

CCC student Raphael Nicas, who was a recipient of an All-Arizona Academic Team Award, was the master of ceremonies and made the introductions.

CCC President Leah Bornstein spoke about the college's emphasis on student success and achievement and followed her remarks by a presentation of the Distinguished Service Award to Joan White for her exemplary service to the college.

The graduate speaker was CCC honor student Leah Norris, who also was a recipient of an All-Arizona Academic Team Award. The tone of her remarks were set by the quote from W.B. Yeats, "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." She shared her personal struggles that put a damper on the fire that burned inside her, but she persevered and returned to school.

"We all started this journey with a spark," Norris said. "Do not let your fire go out."

Later in the ceremony, Dr. Bornstein presented the President's Medallion Award to Norris for her academic achievements and commitment in the service of others.

Speakers also included Jeff Jones, full-time faculty of the year, and Aaron Tabor, part-time faculty of the year.

Patricia Garcia, chair of the CCC District Governing Board, conferred degrees to the new graduates as family members looked on with pride.

Also addressing the new alumni and their families at the ceremony were Joseph Donaldson, president of the CCC Foundation and former Flagstaff mayor, and Northern Arizona University Vice Provost Daniel Kain.



Student graduates line the hall of the CCC Lone Tree campus on May 8 during the Commencement ceremony.



More than 500 people attended the Nurses Pinning Ceremony at CCC on May 7 at the Lone Tree campus in Flagstaff.

New cohort of nurses honored May 7

Twenty-one more Coconino Community College students completed their requirements to be nurses.

And those 21 students were honored May 7 at a Nurse Pinning Ceremony at the CCC Lone Tree campus. Nearly 500 family and friends of the graduates attended. The event included a farewell to two longtime and beloved faculty members as well as the presentation of scholarships to nursing students still making their way through the Nursing Program.

During the ceremony, Dr. Monica Baker, Dean of Career and Technical Education, bid farewell to Don Johnson, former director of Nursing and Allied Health, and Nina Webb, nursing instructor.

Webb presented the Scarves for Scholarships scholarship to student Colton Green. Dawn Kurtz Rivas presented the Jason Kurtz Nursing Scholarship to Stacy Camp. Scott Talboom presented the Blue Cross Blue Shield scholarships to John Forsythe and Clara Brumbaugh.

The Outstanding Nursing Student Award went to Joseph Fabritz, and then the graduates presented Second-Year Pins to the class of 2016.

Fabritz and fellow student Chelsea Zablo shared stories of the cohort's journey through their studies together.

Following the Pinning Ceremony and Candle Lighting, the new graduates gave the Nightingale Pledge to maintain the highest standards of the nursing profession.

COCONINO COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUCCESS

- CCC has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission since 1996.
- More than \$10 million in financial aid is distributed every year to CCC students.
- "CNN Money" has ranked CCC as No. 25 in its listing of the best community college values.
- CCC2NAU has served more than 1,700 students, compared to a starting cohort of 15 in 2008.
- "Community College Week" ranked CCC among the top 50 fastest-growing community colleges.
- The CCC Foundation distributes more than 60 merit scholarships every year in support of student success.
- "Community College Week" says CCC is among the top in the nation for Native American students earning associate degrees.
- The CCC2NAU program has become a national model for transitioning community college students to a four-year university.
- CCC was selected as a Military Friendly School by "G.I. Jobs Magazine." The honor put CCC among the top 20 percent of schools nationwide.
- CCC received a \$2.5 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant (TAACCCT) to advance the CCC2NAU transition program.
- CCC is ranked among the top 50 community colleges in the U.S., according to education website, *thebestschools.org*, citing factors like learning outcomes and student support.
- CCC's federally-funded TRIO program helps low-income Individuals, first generation students and individuals with disabilities. The program has led to higher grade point averages, retention rates and overall student success.
- CCC's Beta Gamma Chi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society was recently recognized as a Five-Star status chapter.
- CCC's Business and Administrative Services has received the annual Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for excellence for 19 consecutive years.

INCOME CREATED BY CCC IN FY2013-14

\$14.9 MILLION

Operations Spending Impact

\$11.7 MILLION

Impact of Student Spending

\$38.4 MILLION

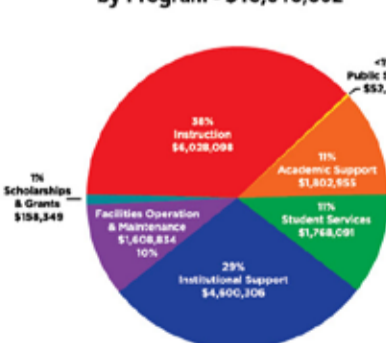
Alumni Impact

\$65 MILLION

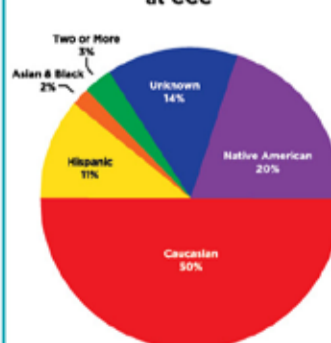
Total Impact

Source: Economic Modeling Specialist INTL

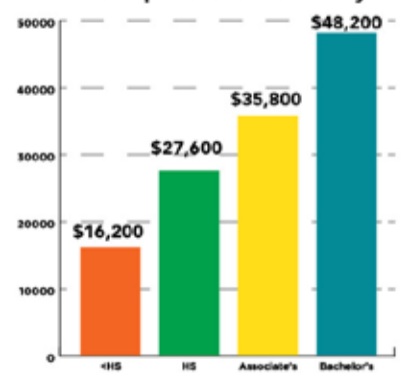
FY14 CCC General Fund Expenditures by Program - \$16,018,802



A Diverse Student Population at CCC



Annual Income by Education Level at Career Midpoint in Coconino County



Source: Economic Modeling Specialist INTL

The CCC STAR is a publication of Coconino Community College

Executive Director of Institutional Advancement - Scott Talboom

Marketing & Events Coordinator - Brian Harris

Senior Graphic Design Specialist - Trevor Welker

Public Relations & Publications Coordinator

Larry Hendricks - 928.226.4374

Larry.Hendricks@coconino.edu



www.fb.com/CoconinoCommunityCollegeOfficial

CAMPUSES:

Flagstaff Lone Tree Campus and District Offices

2800 S. Lone Tree Road

Flagstaff, AZ 86005

928.527.1222

(Disability Resources TTY/TDD - Telephone for the Deaf 928.226.4128)

Flagstaff Fourth Street Campus

FMC Institute for Nursing Education

3000 N. Fourth St.

Flagstaff, AZ 86004

928.526.7600

INSTRUCTIONAL SITES:

Page/Lake Powell

Navajo Generating Station

Technology Center

475 S. Lake Powell Blvd.

Page, AZ 86040

928.645.3987

For class offerings at Grand Canyon and Fredonia, call the Page Instructional Site.

For more information, please visit:

www.coconino.edu/campus-hours-all-campuses

E-Learning

Visit: www.coconino.edu to learn more about available opportunities.

Scan Here to Learn More About CCC



www.coconino.edu

New director for Nursing and Allied Health steps into big shoes

Nurses don't come off a conveyor belt ready-made. They start out as students, filled with passion to help others, who undergo hours of study, rotations in clinical settings and, importantly, testing to make sure they have the right stuff.

In February, Lori Edwards stepped into the role of Director of Nursing and Allied Health at Coconino Community College. She takes over for Donald Johnson, who retired from the position in March.

"This is a good program," Edwards said. She wants to keep it good, make it better, "and give the community outstanding professionals."

The curriculum in Nursing and Allied Health at CCC is meant to give students the knowledge and the skills they will need to enter a variety of jobs in the health care industry.

Edwards comes to CCC from Southern California, where she was director of the Licensed Vocational Nurse and Certified Nursing Assistant program at Beaumont Adult School. There she developed a program that emphasized preparing students for state certification tests.

Before her arrival at Beaumont Adult School, pass

rates of the students there were in the 70 percent range. After her arrival, pass rates of students were 95 to 100 percent for more than eight years. She wants to keep the latest 94 percent pass rate at CCC as strong or better.

She said her success came from a combination of factors that included finding the right faculty, setting expectations and standards for teachers and students and including testing models for the students into the curriculum.

By including a testing component, students could be prepared for the state tests required for licensing and certification. Preparation for the state tests is crucial for success.

"I think that for nurses, people think that all they need to do is go to school and all the answers will be in the textbooks," Edwards said, adding that it is not necessarily the case. In addition to education, becoming a nurse requires a passion to want to take care of ill people.

The journey for Edwards began early.

"I knew from high school I wanted to be a nurse," Edwards said, adding that nobody in her family had been in the field of medicine. "I was one of those rare kids who knew what she wanted



Lori Edwards is the new director of Nursing and Allied Health for Coconino Community College.

to do. You have to be interested and have that passion for the responsibility you will have as a nurse."

She became a certified nursing assistant, a licensed vocational nurse and then a registered nurse through the help of a community college. Then,

it was on to a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in nursing. She has worked in hospitals in a variety of departments and physician offices. She worked in the private and public sectors and was a Certified Diabetes Educator.

"It's hard work," Edwards

said. "And you really have to love what you do."

The CCC Nursing Program is made possible thanks to support from the Flagstaff Medical Center Foundation, Capstone Health Fund, Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff and GeoFund. ☐

Don Johnson retires from Coconino Community College after 12 years

Twelve years and 350 nurses later, Don Johnson, director of Nursing and Allied Health at Coconino Community College, retired at the beginning of March.

"It's been a truly fun experience working for the college," Johnson said. "I'd do it all over again."

Johnson moved to Flagstaff in 2001 after retiring from the military. With his master's degree in nursing, he taught nursing at Northern Arizona University and worked as a staff nurse at Flagstaff Medical Center.

"Of course, we always had students," Johnson said, adding that while at FMC, he worked for the education department as a clinical teacher for students from NAU, Northland Pioneer College and CCC.

The leadership at CCC



Don Johnson retires from director of Nursing and Allied Health after a 12-year run.

approached him to be the director when the college began the nursing program in 2002, but it wasn't until the summer of 2003 that he accepted the position after stepping into the job on an interim basis.

"I thought this was going to be absolutely fun and fantastic,"

Johnson said.

Dr. Monica Baker, Dean of Career and Technical Education, said, "Don brought heart, dedication and structure to our nursing program during the critical start-up stages. He put together a strong, viable program from almost nothing. His

leadership was strong throughout his tenure at CCC, and he won the respect of Northern Arizona Healthcare and other health care facilities due to the quality of the CCC nursing graduates."

Johnson said his proudest achievement is that there are 350 nurses who went through the CCC program, most of whom stayed in Flagstaff after completing the requirements of the program.

"Our students are really well respected, truly competent," Johnson said, adding that the credit goes to both students and teachers. And what results are professionals who are well-prepared and ready to handle nursing.

"We just have a group of students who are overachievers," Johnson said. "When we admit

that group of 20 students, we expect to keep them."

And the focus, in the end, is always on the patients.

"The patients deserve to have things done right and competently," Johnson said.

Johnson may be retired, but he's not slowing down. He restores old cars – a 1931 Model A, a 1930 Model A, and a 1938 Pontiac Touring Sedan. He also enjoys woodworking, welding and photography. When his wife Diane, also a nurse, retires at the end of May, they will take a summer road trip up the West Coast.

How did his time at CCC affect him?

"I understood I was a piece of a bigger picture," he said. "I'm truly proud of the work we were able to accomplish here." ☐

PALETTE

From Page 1

to help someone be in the CCC art program," Begay said.

CCC art student Ben Craigie created this year's signature

piece of artwork, "Out of the Fire." Craigie focuses on reusing scrap metal to create art, and his piece was influenced by the food element of Palette to Palate. The piece sold to Scott

Talboom, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, for \$200. The piece will be a gift to the college.

This year's live auction artists were Tom Alexander, George Averbeck, Shonto Begay, Ben Craigie, David Dawangyumptewa, David Edwards, Don Fethkenher, Joe Findley, Greg Hill, Sam Jones, Kiril Kirkov, Jerry McGlothlin (donated by Dr. Ingrid Lee), Jason Oberman, Paula Rice, Audria Smith, Suzanne Doucette Stebila, Gwen Waring and Dolores Ziegler.

Petersen said that Palette to Palate had humble beginnings, and the latest event demonstrates

the growing strength of the idea.

"It's become a thing," Petersen said.

Three restaurants walked away with top honors from the event. Zenith Steakhouse at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort won for best presentation. Cottage Place won for best dessert. SoSoBa won for best hors d'oeuvre.

Participating restaurants this year were Artisan's Kitchen, Cottage Place, Flagstaff Food Service, Karma Sushi Bar & Grill, Little America Restaurant & Bar, Main Street Catering, Pita Jungle, Satchmo's, Someburros, SoSoBa, The Annex, The Sweet Shoppe & Nut House, Tinderbox Kitchen, Tourist Home Urban Market

and Zenith Steakhouse at Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort.

The Chase Coleman Jazz Quartet Ensemble provided music for the event. Al Rakaasat wowed the crowd with Turkish-Egyptian dancing. Video was provided by Victor Vongpraseuth of Vongspoth.

Patron sponsors for the event were Northern Arizona Healthcare's Flagstaff Medical Center Foundation and Findlay Toyota.

The silent auction sponsor was APS. The live auction framing sponsor was The Framing Department at Hidden Light LLC. ☐

BORNSTEIN

From Page 1

and they are interested in student success."

She added that she would miss the community as well.

"This is an incredible community for partnering and collaborating," Bornstein said. "That's made my job a joy."

CCC partners and collaborators include NAU, W.L. Gore, Goodwill Industries, Flagstaff Medical Center, SRP, the Flagstaff Unified School District and many others. Those partnerships, coupled with CCC's potential for the future, will add to further innovation and creativity, Bornstein said.

Bornstein's legacy includes pioneering several programs that have earned the college national recognition. Among these programs was the creation of a strategic and tactical plan that implemented more than 300 initiatives with more than a 90 percent completion rate. Her legacy also includes a sustainable financial plan and an award-winning national and state community college/university partnership model, CCC2NAU.

She steered the college through unprecedented economic challenges. Enrollment increased 20 percent during her tenure, and she presided over a budget restructuring that improved long-term financial

stability after substantial cuts in state aid. CCC continued its accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission. Also during Bornstein's tenure, CCC was ranked one of the fastest growing community colleges in the country; one of the best in the nation for achievement, learning and affordability; one of the highest in the nation in associate degrees earned by Native American learners; and one of the highest in the nation for best chance for students to transfer to a university.

In recognition of her leadership, commitment and contributions to Coconino County and NAU, Dr. Bornstein was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in 2012. She also received the 2014 Athena Award from the Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce for her leadership role in the community and her reputation as a mentor to colleagues.

In a letter to faculty and staff, Bornstein wrote, "I have greatly valued the personal connections, the laughs and the tears, training and growing together, winning and losing together."

She came to CCC from Colorado, and now she's returning. The new post at Aims Community College was a return to her "Colorado heart."

"It has been an incredibly rewarding experience," Bornstein said. ☐

FACULTY

From Page 1

In addition to teaching, she volunteers as the co-advisor for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society's Beta Gamma Chi chapter and also serves as the faculty coordinator for two student publications: "Curios" and "OnCourse." She finds both experiences equally rewarding.

ELAINE DILLINGHAM
Dillingham has been teaching part-time at CCC since 2003, and the students have been her focus.

"It means everything," Dillingham said of getting the nod from students. "It could not be more meaningful. Coming from the students, for me, is really the ultimate affirmation. I'm very appreciative and surprised."

A group of 13 students sent in a nomination form for Dillingham, and stated, "She insists on the practice of the essential principles of artmaking, but continually creates new, relevant and exciting projects. She

challenges students to integrate basic concepts into products they can be proud of."

The group also wrote, "Her energy, deep and comprehensive art background, and love of the creative process are infectious... [Because] Elaine advises students during each step of the process, she ensures the best possible outcome for each student. Failure or quitting are not options."

Dillingham considers herself an artist first, and teaching an art. The visual arts are different from other academic disciplines. They're very personal, revealing of self and profound, she said.

A good art teacher steers excellence on one hand, but nurtures people where they are on the other. She added that art is a combination of technique and creativity, and a student must have both, which holds true for teaching as well.

Drawing is the foundation of visual arts, Dillingham said.

"To draw it, you have to know it, and to know it, you have

to see it," Dillingham added. Art is the development of the ability to see, which is a skill.

As for her technique, Dillingham said she runs a tight ship. She expects students to be there, be on time, and she will provide the clear goals and high standards for the students balanced with compassion and flexibility.

Most importantly, she loves people – the highs and the lows: no matter how accomplished an artist might be, he or she will have no hope of being an effective teacher without loving people.

At CCC, Dillingham has taught Drawing I & II, Life Drawing, Oil & Acrylic Painting, Art Appreciation and Draw Then Paint. Her professional experience as an artist extends back 20 years.

She received her bachelor's degree in visual arts from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn. in 1972. ☐