

President Smith starts at CCC

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Colleen A. Smith, Ph.D., the new permanent President of Coconino Community College, began her tenure on Feb. 1.

Dr. Smith replaces Dr. Leah L. Bornstein, who left the position July 1, 2015, after she accepted a position as President of Aims Community College in Greeley, Colorado. Before President Smith's arrival, Veronica Hipolito, Dean of Student Services, was appointed to serve as Interim President.

Dr. Smith recently took the opportunity to answer a few questions about her upcoming start at CCC.

1. What attracted you to the presidency of CCC?

Stories online about CCC students and the values expressed by the college and the community were the first things that attracted me to CCC. The word "compassion" was used in the description of the president's profile - I don't think I have ever seen it used in that way before and I found that intriguing. With "a commitment to student success" listed right up front on the web, along with an emphasis on the importance of compassion - working at CCC sounded like



Colleen A. Smith

the best job in the world to me! A service-oriented community, diversity of thought, and respect for the contribution of each "unique individual" are all very important to me. I found descriptions that reinforce these ideas on the college website and throughout various organizations in northern Arizona.

2. How do you envision your first month as President of Coconino Community College?

I expect my first month to go something like this:

- I plan to listen - a lot.
- I plan to ask questions - a lot.
- I plan to learn - a lot.
- I plan to work hard and share my energy and passion in service to our students and communities - and yes, I plan to work hard - a lot.

As a matter of fact, I think that pretty much describes my second month, my third month and so on - my entire tenure at Coconino Community College. I will be out in our communities getting to know folks as soon as possible. I can't wait, and I am ready to go!

3. What do you believe are

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Tribal grad rate high for CCC

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Coconino Community College was recently ranked 28th in the nation as a top associate's degree producer for Native American students.

The College has ranked in the top 50 for the last four years by Community College Week, a national magazine.

"Congratulations to our students on their achievement," said CCC Interim President Veronica Hipolito. "The ranking reflects the positive outcome that can be achieved with the combination of student effort, quality instruction and student services support."

CCC Student Services provides all students with advising to help them set goals, plan their degrees and select courses. A variety of programs at CCC work toward retaining students through individualized support as well.

For the last four academic years, CCC has placed 49th, 29th, 36th and 28th in ranking out of the Top 100 listing for associate's degrees conferred to Native American students.

Community College Week analyzed degrees and certificates conferred during the 2013-14 academic year, then broke it down across various race/ethnicity categories and also academic disciplines. Institutions that grant associate's degrees, including two-year and four-year institutions, were used for the Top 100 rankings. There are more than 1,600 community colleges across the United States.

Community College Week provides in-depth analysis of issues, trends and news impacting two-year educational institutions.

Student Success: On his way to a MFA



CCC2NAU Fine Arts student Benjamin Craigie stands in front of his art installation at SoSoBa in downtown Flagstaff.

Long-forgotten, discarded pieces of metal join forces and find a home snuggled tightly with ceramic bowls and cups. One function's death resurrects into another - as art.

CCC2NAU student Ben Craigie unveiled his art installation at SoSoBa restaurant in Flagstaff during the First Friday Artwalk on Feb. 5.

"This is my first show I've put together myself," Craigie said, adding that he's had work shown previously in Tucson and San Francisco. It's also his first installation in Flagstaff.

The installation features 26 of Craigie's pieces mixing ceramic and metal work. Photos of his are also featured. He's worked in metal for more than 20 years, and his interest in ceramics and photography began to flower during his time at Coconino Community College. His work is featured with that of artist and colleague Bennett Roti, who also works in ceramics.

The sculptural work, Craigie said,

was an attempt to mix ceramic and metal in non-traditional ways. Ceramics, to him, is an art form that ends with a piece of art that can be used for a variety of tasks - to drink from a ceramic cup, to put flowers in a ceramic vase, to fill a ceramic bowl with fruit. He interjects ceramics into the metal work to take away that usefulness typically associated with ceramic art, but the installation also features more traditional ceramics pieces.

His photo collection, stitched together from a photography class at CCC, features city-scapes that are titled after famous natural landmarks like the Grand Canyon.

"Most people live in Arizona because it's so beautiful, but they never seem to leave downtown," Craigie said, laughing.

And it is humor that sits at the center of his installation. A ceramic plate, a metal plate and a wooden plate rest together over the title, "Platonic Relationship."

Other pieces are similarly titled.

"I want art to be accessible with humor," Craigie said, "so

it's not so intimidating."

Art is too often associated with the haughtiness of high society, and Craigie's strategy is to make art resonate with wider audiences.

Craigie, who created the signature piece in the 2015 Palette to Palate fundraising event, is in his last semester at CCC before he receives his associate's degree in fine arts. From there, it's on to Northern Arizona University.

"My ultimate goal is to get an MFA, so I'm knocking out the BFA first," Craigie said.

He added that he wanted to thank the SoSoBa owners, Joshua Riesner and Tyler Christensen, for giving him the freedom to do what he wanted to be creative with the installation.

The installation was unveiled during the city's First Friday Artwalk and will be up for the next three months. All of the items are for sale. SoSoBa is located at 12 E. Route 66, No. 104, downtown.

CCC releases strategic plan

Flagstaff, Ariz. - The Coconino Community College District Governing Board approved a new five-year strategic plan for the college at their regular meeting in November 2015.

The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan outlines four goals that focus on student success. To achieve the set goals, staff and faculty at CCC will institute more than 100 initiatives during the five-year plan, and will use measures to track the success of the initiatives. The four goals are: Goal 1: CCC will provide learners educational opportunities that are accessible and affordable, while also being economically feasible for the College.

Goal 2: CCC will promote a learner-centered environment that incorporates innovative strategies and support structures intended to reduce student attrition and increase retention.

Goal 3: CCC will empower students to achieve their individual learning goals and implement strategies to increase certificate and degree completion rates.

Goal 4: CCC will strengthen the College's working environment by maximizing college resources, expanding community outreach, and implementing effective personnel management and employee development strategies.

"The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan will focus our efforts as a college community to enhance the student experience at CCC and improve student performance outcomes," said CCC Interim President Veronica Hipolito. "The College was successful with the implementation of the previous strategic plan, and we're excited to continue our efforts in student access to higher education, workforce development and increased completion of degree attainment in Coconino County."

Nearly 95 percent of 239 initiatives were completed during the previous 2012-2015 Strategic Plan. For more information on the Coconino Community College 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, visit <https://www.coconino.edu/ccp-president-office/strategic-planning-process>.

See **PALETTE**, Page 4

Gala evening benefits CCC Fine Arts

Truly considered one of Flagstaff's finest signature art events, Palette to Palate has consistently grown in popularity. This year's Palette to Palate 14th annual fundraising event will feature gourmet hors d'oeuvres and desserts from some of the finest restaurants in northern Arizona, local craft beers, wine, coffee & tea, refreshments, entertainment, music, live and silent art auctions.

"This year more than ever I'm looking forward to attending Palette to Palate," said Marketing and Events Coordinator Brian Harris. "CCC dance instructor, Robert Corbin will introduce special choreographed dance performances showcasing FALA students and Al

**Palatte
To Palate 2016**

Rakasaat is returning as well."

Commitments thus far include: Main Street Catering, Artisan's Kitchen, Satchmo's, SoSoBa - The Nonstop Noodle Shop, Karma Sushi Bar Grill, Little America Restaurant, DoubleTree by Hilton, Simply Delicious/Café Daily Fare, Josephine's Modern American Bistro, Cottage Place, Sweet Shoppe & Nut House, Pita Jungle and Southwest Foodservice

Excellence - dining gift cards were donated by Brandy's Restaurant & Bakery. More restaurants are still expected to come to the event.

Locally brewed craft beers will be provided by Mother Road Brewing Company. Coffee and tea will be provided by Campus Coffee Bean, and refreshments will be provided by the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Flagstaff.

Dance performances and music will be presented by CCC dance instructor Robert Corbin, Al Rakasaat Turkish Egyptian Dance Troupe and Chase Coleman Jazz.

Palette to Palate 2016 is made possible in part through contributions from patron sponsor, Findlay Toyota; framing sponsor,

New nurses take flight

Flagstaff, Ariz. - It was a night of tears, and, with the lights low, 19 candles glowed. With serious faces, they took their pledge.

"... With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care," they all recited.

Their next step will be to head out into the world dedicated to helping the sick.

On Dec. 17, Coconino Community College nursing students graduated during a Nurse Pinning Ceremony at the Lone Tree Campus. More than 200 family, friends and faculty attended the event.

"It seems like the type of career that's not just a job," said graduate Alex Beadles of Flagstaff just before the ceremony. "Everyone really seems to enjoy what they do. It's something you dedicate your whole life to."

Beadles said his eventual goal is to go into flight nursing, and to travel overseas, perhaps Nepal, to use his skills. In the meantime, he took a job in the same

hospital in which he was born - Flagstaff Medical Center.

"It feels like the tables have turned," Beadles said. "I will provide care where once I received care."

Graduate Elena Jennett from Page said, "I don't think I chose it. I think it chose me."

Jennett attended the CCC Nursing Program after spending 14 years in the medical field. Her ultimate goal is to work in the surgery department of a hospital as a surgical nurse and the emergency department as a trauma nurse.

Of their experience in the Nursing Program, Beadles and Jennett said the program prepared them for the profession - even though the program is going through change, with new teachers and new administration.

During the ceremony, CCC's Interim President Veronica Hipolito welcomed the new nurse graduates and their families.

"Completion of the nursing degree takes commitment, persistence and countless hours spent in study and clinicals," Hipolito said. "Success is



CCC nursing students take the Florence Nightingale pledge at graduation Dec. 17, 2015.

made possible with the support and encouragement of loved ones, friends, family and instructors. Completion of the nursing degree is an awesome achievement."

Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs Monica Baker spoke to the graduates about life. She said that a positive outlook and attitude would take them far.

"Negativity will eat you up and spit you out," Baker said, advising the students to stay away from the negative road in life. Lori Edwards, Director of Nursing and

Allied Health, said that becoming a nurse means a dedication to lifelong learning. With tears, Edwards talked about the changes that she has presided over with an eye to making the students better prepared and, ultimately, better nurses.

"I have been a nurse for nearly 40 years," Edwards said. "And every day of those years I have been proud of the title 'nurse.' For each of you, I wish that same pride every day of your careers."

Edwards added, "Ours is a noble and caring profession, and I welcome you to the family of nurses." ■

Student Success: Jewel Honga dedicated to life of service

Former Coconino Community College student Jewel Honga has dedicated herself to helping her people. As a member of the Hualapai Tribe, Honga understands how important it is to represent her people and help young people go to school.

Honga began college at Portland State University in the fall of 2008, but she injured her knee and needed recovery time.

"There was no way I could have done it in Oregon, so I had to stay," she said. "I wanted to keep going to school, I didn't want to stop. I can't stay at home and do nothing, so I enrolled at CCC in the fall of 2009."

While at CCC, Honga went to class on crutches. She would hobble down the halls and try to get her knee to stretch out and heal.

At CCC, Honga enjoyed the small class sizes and the individualized attention she received from her instructors. During her final semester at CCC, she helped fellow students start the Indigenous Student Association.

"It is important for Native students just to have a place to meet with other Native students and talk about struggles that we go through," Honga said. "A lot of us, we leave the reservation to come to school and we have that homesickness. There's a lot of stuff that we worry about."

She transferred to Northern Arizona University where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Management in the spring of



Jewel Honga graduated from NAU in May and plans on graduate school.

2015 and a Bachelor of Science in Marketing in the fall of 2015. She also received a Gold Axe Award.

While at NAU, Honga worked with the Center for American Indian Economic Development and the Native American Business Association, along with participating in other activities designed to help with the advancement of Native American students.

According to Honga, the close-knit, family-oriented environment children experience on the reservations is vastly different from the environment they experience off the reservations.

Honga lived in Flagstaff until she was 4, then she moved back to the Hualapai reservation. She returned to Flagstaff in sixth grade so her mother could finish her degree at NAU.

"I remember going through that culture shock," she said. Honga emphasized how important it is for students to step out of their comfort zones and

pursue the opportunities the world has to offer.

"I think because you grow up with your neighbors being your cousins, you're teachers being related to you in [some way], just that [relationship] with everybody, you get really comfortable with it, and it's so hard to maybe make the choice to want to leave, to go to a place where nobody knows you," she said. "There's the whole world of opportunities out there and you just have to go out and it will find you."

While at NAU in 2014, Honga earned the title of Miss Indian NAU. As Miss Indian NAU, she served as an ambassador for NAU on behalf of Native American students.

The following year, Honga won Miss Hualapai and continued to be an ambassador for her tribe. Her main goal as Miss Hualapai is to educate people about her tribe.

"The pageant world is so interesting because I don't really

consider myself a pageant girl, but because I've won two out of the last three pageants that I've run in, I don't think I can say that anymore," she said. "I like it a lot just because you meet so many people of different tribes. You meet people who knew your grandparents, who knew your aunts and uncles through boarding school or through playing sports and it's just really cool to meet people."

Plans for the Future

Honga plans to run for Miss Indian World in April. The pageant is held in Albuquerque, N.M., during Gathering of Nations and includes tribes from all over America and Canada. If she wins, she will represent her tribe and serve as an ambassador for all tribes of America. She expects to continue educating people about her tribal culture and encouraging young Native American students to go to college.

As the current Miss Hualapai, Honga tries to be involved in her community. She currently lives in her hometown of Peach Springs and works as a cashier at the local supermarket.

"I really enjoy working there," she said. "It was actually important for me because I hold the title as Miss Hualapai."

The Hualapai Tribe owns and operates the Grand Canyon Resort Corporation, of which Honga plans to be a part.

"I plan to work in different departments of my corporation," Honga said. "My plan is to at least spend some time in each

department. In the spring, I think I want to work on the river."

Honga intends to return to school for a master's degree in 2017. In the future, she plans to continue working with the Grand Canyon Resort Corporation and continue to find ways to help her people. ■

— Melissa Stewart

Tell us your CCC story

Coconino Community College will celebrate 25 years starting the fall semester of 2016.

Festivities will be scheduled all year long. During this 25th anniversary celebration, we will be collecting stories to illustrate how CCC has had an impact on former students and our community.

We'd like to share those stories with the community throughout the year.

When did you attend? What was the experience like? What did you study? Which faculty inspired you the most? What did the education at CCC help you accomplish?

The writer of the most inspirational story will win a Fitbit!

Please submit your story, no longer than 1,000 words, to Larry Hendricks, Public Relations Coordinator, at larry.hendricks@coconino.edu, or call (928) 226-4374. Please be sure to include an email address or phone number.

CCC computers donated to Coconino County school districts

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Students in schools around the county will be using fresh computers in the near future.

Coconino Community College donated 149 computers, Apples and PCs, to Flagstaff, Williams and Page school districts in February.

"We're working to get technology in the hands of kids to help with student success," said Doug King, User Services Analyst at CCC.

The computers, which have been replaced at CCC with newer technology, are being donated for educational purposes. To date, CCC has donated nearly 700 computers in the last four years to schools in the county, including Flagstaff Unified School District, Page Unified School District, Williams Unified School District, Grand Canyon Unified School District, Flagstaff Community Christian School, Northland Preparatory Academy and Flagstaff Junior Academy.

Rick Smith, Assistant Director of Technology at FUSD, stated in a letter, "As you know, school districts are in need of community support to meet the needs of the students. Coconino Community College sets an example for other

community agencies, business and institutions to follow."

Gabi Uebel, Technology Director at WUSD, stated in a letter, "We would greatly appreciate your donation in our classrooms for our students. Most of our classroom student computers ... are almost eight years old."

Uebel said that the students will be using the computers for research, typing and testing.

When Smith came to pick up the computers for FUSD, he said the Macs will be going to DeMiguel Elementary School to replace old technology in a lab there.

"They're really excited about getting these," Smith said. He added that the remaining computers will be distributed among elementary and middle schools throughout the district that have computers that are 10 years old or older.

"So now we'll have six-year-old computers," Smith said, smiling. "We'll run them until the wheels fall off. These donations really help."

For more information about the CCC computer donation program, contact Doug King at doug.king@coconino.edu, or (928) 226-4342. ■



Doug King, User Services Analyst at CCC, poses with a large batch of computers to be donated to local schools.

CCC Fire Science students take the heat in training

The fire burned, smoke and heat billowed from open doors, and then the students entered the building.

"It was very exciting, definitely gets the adrenaline going," said Justin Roederer, second-year student in Fire Science at Coconino Community College. "I'd never been in a structure on fire before. It's a lot different than a wildland setting."

Roederer and 15 other CCC students participated in a live fire drill on Nov. 14 at the Flagstaff Fire Department's training facility near the Wildcat Water Treatment Plant.

"Our objective is to introduce firefighters to the environment of live fires," said Michael Duran, training officer for the Sedona Fire Department and lead instructor of Firefighter 1 and 2 classes at CCC. "The live fire is to give them exposure and to have respect for the fire."

The day-long "Hot Drill" gave the students an up-close look at fire behavior, smoke levels, heat, and what a fire does when the doors to a building are opened and closed, Duran said. The students dealt with super-heated air and smoke. They learned about how water reacts to fire, the steam that's created, the physics of fire behavior, and, finally, how to attack a fire to bring it under control.

The students learned how to lay hoses, go inside and

communicate with incident command. Dummies, called "Rescue Randys," simulated victims of the fire, and the students had to go into the building, find them in the smoke and fire and rescue them.

"The whole focus of the class is first of all for them to become state-certified firefighters," Duran said. "We're teaching about safety more than anything."

The CCC curriculum follows state and national standards, Duran said. The students checked and rechecked their gear, all of which is regularly tested. The students learned basic principles of building construction and fire behavior. They got to know their equipment, developed a "situational awareness," while in the building, and got to know how to think under stress.

During the drill, a minimum of one instructor per three students was present to ensure safety, Duran said. And before the drill, the students participated in a variety of activities that built upon one another to get them ready to enter a building on fire.

"We try to get them ready for the job," Duran said. "When we send them out after they're done, they're ready to start applying for jobs."

The training is the first row of bricks for a foundation on a house the students are going to build for a career, Duran said. Nevertheless, once the students land a job as a



CCC Fire Science students participate in a live fire drill at the Flagstaff Fire Department training facility.

firefighter, their training never ends.

After the drill, Duran said all of the students met the minimum requirements to test for the state.

"Everybody ended up doing very well in the class," Duran said.

Roederer was born and raised in Flagstaff, and he graduated from Flagstaff High School in 2013. Right now, he works a seasonal temporary position with the Wildland Fire Crew for the city of Flagstaff. The crew performs prescribed burns, tree thinning and responds to fires

when needed.

"I love the woods," he said. "I love camping. I love being outside. I love helping people, too. So why not put it all together?"

Although the Hot Drill went well for Roederer, he said his company's nozzle man didn't control the fire well enough before the crew entered onto the second floor and they put themselves in a situation where they could really feel the heat. The crew's captain saw the mistake and had them continue through the exercise to make sure they didn't make the

same mistake again.

"We all came out," Roederer said. "We were all still breathing."

Roederer said his immediate hope is to work with the City of Flagstaff Fire Department. His training at CCC will make it possible for him to hire on with experience most fledgling firefighters can only get at a fire academy.

"It was a very well-rounded learning experience," he said. "It's absolutely an awesome experience."

New Special Initiatives Coordinator comes aboard at CCC

Shaun McKernan is the new Special Initiatives Coordinator for Coconino Community College with deep roots in the Flagstaff community.

He was born in Flagstaff and has been involved in the community for the past several years. As a student at Coconino High School, McKernan participated in the Dual Enrollment program with Coconino Community College. This allowed him to earn several college credits at CCC and transfer them to Northern Arizona University after his high school graduation in 2009.

"My mom was also a student at CCC and participated in a program similar to the Passages Program from 1998-2003," McKernan said. "She earned two associate's degrees and two certificates, so this makes me a second-generation CCC student."

During his undergrad studies, he completed two bachelor's degrees in three and a half years - one in History and the other in Political Science. Although the CCC2NAU program started after his attendance at NAU, several of his courses from CCC helped him complete both bachelor degrees, saving both time and money.

"The Dual Enrollment program offered by CCC allowed me to save thousands of dollars and let me pursue my education locally," McKernan said.

Following his graduation from NAU, McKernan became politically active

in northern Arizona, working on six campaigns during the next two years and networking with several political leaders at the local and state levels. Concurrently, he pursued his master's degree in Public Administration (MPA) at NAU. Following the 2014 elections, he became a committee member for the Coconino County Silent Witness Program while finishing his studies. In 2015, McKernan joined the scholarly community, graduating with his MPA from NAU.

As a person who enjoys being involved in the community and supporting the institutions that helped him succeed, McKernan said, "I am excited to work for Coconino Community College, which has had such a positive impact on my life and allowed me to pursue my higher education goals. I want to continue to give back to my community and establish ties to others throughout Coconino County."

As the Special Initiatives Coordinator, McKernan will be focusing on educational outreach. This effort is designed to educate the public about the opportunities available to them through CCC and the benefits of pursuing higher education for personal development.

"Coconino Community College offers many great programs for students of any age to better themselves at a pace that is comfortable to them," McKernan said.

One of the economic impacts that CCC contributes to Coconino County is through



Shaun McKernan is the new Special Initiatives Coordinator for Coconino Community College.

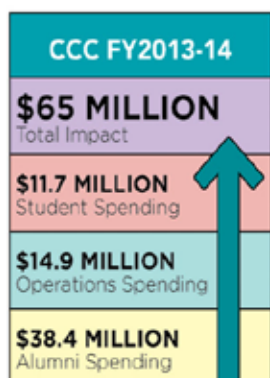
workforce development training through certificates* and programs for nurses, firefighters, police officers and technical education. However, the most recognizable economic impact is that CCC provides a low debt load from earning an associate's degree, which allows the individual to make more and give back to Coconino County's economy. CCC is also committed to student success by helping students reach their educational goals from a single class to preparing for transfer to a four-year university.

"I'm proud to have been a student at CCC," McKernan said. "And now, I'm an

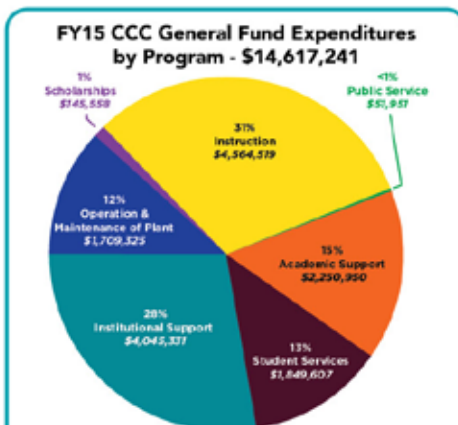
employee. This institution has been here 25 years, and I look forward to seeing CCC serve the county for 25 more."

McKernan would also like to remind county residents to get registered to vote because voting season is upon us. To register, visit <https://vote.usa.gov/>

*Important gainful employment information regarding the educational debt, warnings, and completion rates of CCC students in all CCC certificate programs is available at: www.coconino.edu/degrees-and-certificates.



Source: Economic Modeling Specialist INTL



Where Does My Property Tax Dollar Go?



Coconino Community College received 6% of all 2015 property taxes collected by the Coconino County Treasurer, which supports the College's vision, mission and strategic goals. Percentage of tax distributions and taxing districts vary by property location.

The CCC STAR is a publication of Coconino Community College

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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

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

Scan Here to Learn More About CCC



www.coconino.edu

HS2CCC: Student Success starts early at CCC

At Coconino Community College, student success starts early. CCC offers high school students the opportunity to earn high school and college credits simultaneously through the school's dual enrollment program.

Students can take CCC's dual enrollment classes at 11 high schools in Coconino County from 60 CCC instructors.

According to HS2CCC (High School to Coconino Community College) Coordinator Denise Folke, CCC hires instructors specifically to teach local high school students interested in earning dual credit. Dual enrollment instructors must meet the same requirements as CCC instructors to ensure students are receiving the same quality of education that they would at CCC.

CCC also teaches dual enrollment classes to Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry and Technology students. CAVIAT is a Joint Technical Education District that the state created specifically to fund career and technical programs, Folke said.

Generally Career and Technical Education classes do not have a fee, but students who are looking to get their core requirements completed before finishing high school are usually required to pay a fee, Folke said. Luckily, dual enrollment students do not have to pay for textbooks.

All of the students taking CAVIAT programs are taking CTE courses and often don't pay for their programs. Many times they will also take dual enrollment classes at their high school to earn their core credits while enrolled in a CAVIAT program, Folke said.

CCC's dual enrollment program is beneficial to students who are earning discounted college credits as well as to the school who recruits future students through the program, CCC Foundation Director

Scott Talboom said.

"It's a win-win because anything that encourages Coconino County residents to further their education is good for workforce development and for our community in general," Talboom said.

"Our internal statistics have shown that our dual enrollment and CAVIAT students tend to do better than the general population," Folke said.

According to Talboom, CCC dual enrollment classes used to be free, but when state funding was reduced, CCC began charging \$25 per credit hour fee. However, charging that fee has made it difficult for many students to attend dual enrollment classes.

Fortunately, funding from the Raymond Educational Foundation at CCC has made it possible to provide \$5,000 in scholarship funds for dual enrollment students.

"The cost for classes is \$25 per credit hour for dual enrollment, so with \$5,000 we're hoping to get about 60 kids awarded so they can take classes," Folke said.

CCC recently awarded 17 fall scholarships. Folke said she hopes to award up to 60 spring scholarships.

"The reason this is important is because even though \$75 for a three-credit-hour class doesn't seem like a lot of money when you look at what it costs to come here or to go to NAU, these kids don't qualify for financial aid at a high school level and that amount of money... they are not able to come up with that," Folke said.

Last year, over 1,000 students were taking dual enrollment classes and about 75 took CAVIAT classes.

CCC's dual enrollment classes are only offered through certain Coconino County schools and CAVIAT programs, but some high school students choose to take courses



High School student Kassidi Rowley is already earning college credit at CCC.

through concurrent enrollment.

Seventeen-year-old Kassidi Rowley is earning college credit at Coconino Community College while she is earning her diploma through Primavera Online High School.

Kassidi and her family moved to the Flagstaff area in the middle of her junior year of high school, where she quickly realized the high school scene wasn't for her. She decided to start earning college credit at CCC while finishing up her high school education online.

At Primavera, classes are offered online and only last for six weeks at a time, which will enable Kassidi to graduate high school sooner and pursue her childhood dream of earning a degree in zoology and working with animals.

Kassidi planned to finish her high school

education in January and to continue earning a degree at CCC.

"I really like the college experience," Kassidi said. "I didn't like high school because you have all the people who don't want to be there... (and) the teacher's focus more on the kids who are being disruptive than actually teaching you. Then I got here and we actually learned something."

"So far, it has really helped me remember how much I actually like to go to school," she said of her time at CCC. "It just makes me want to be here. I actually get excited to attend my classes at CCC."

For more information about CCC's programs, visit www.coconino.edu.

— Melissa Stewart

CCC IA director joins Page chamber

Page, Ariz. - Scott Talboom, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement at Coconino Community College, has joined the Page/Lake Powell Chamber of Commerce Board.

"I have always believed in the role that the Chambers of Commerce fulfill in their respective communities, and I am excited to have been selected as one of the Page Chamber Board Members," Talboom said. "Page may be a small community, but the Chamber of Commerce there is very active."

Talboom, who has worked at Coconino Community College's Flagstaff Lone Tree Campus since 2009, oversees marketing and public relations for the College as well as the CCC Foundation. He brings a wide variety of experience to the Chamber.

"I believe that in addition to creating, promoting and overseeing many events, the Page Chamber will have a vital role

in helping the community grow its job base and create a niche in the changing economy," Talboom said.

In his role as a new chamber member, Talboom will be participating in the Northern Arizona Economic Outlook Conference in Page, April 28, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Courtyard Marriott, 600 E. Clubhouse Drive. Attendees will include representatives from Coconino County, CCC, Northern Arizona University and the city of Page. Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye will also deliver a message at the conference. County Supervisor Lena Fowler will be delivering closing remarks.

Coconino Community College has been providing higher education to the Page community since 1995, and CCC opened a campus in 1997. Approximately 150 residents from Page and the surrounding areas attend what is now the Page Instructional Site.



Scott Talboom

PALETTE From Page 1

The Framing Department at Hidden Light LLC, and floral sponsor, Sutcliffe Floral.

Thanks to great community participation, support from renowned local artists and vibrant patrons of the arts, the funds raised at Palette to Palate events throughout the years have directly benefited the CCC Fine Arts Department and contributed to student success by helping offset the cost of art equipment and supplies, travel expenses, and by providing community college scholarships for art majors.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 29, 2016 in the CCC Lone Tree Campus Commons - 2800 S. Lone Tree Road, Flagstaff. Ticket prices are \$40 for individual general admission, \$70 for couples, and \$30 for individual CCC students, alumni, faculty and staff.

To purchase Palette to Palate 2016 tickets online visit: www.bitty.com/p2ptickets, or visit www.coconinofoundation.org.

For more details please contact Marketing & Events Coordinator, Brian Harris at brian.harris@coconino.edu, or call (928) 226-4312.

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CCC's greatest strengths?

The people. I think that is the greatest strength of any organization. The "people" includes: our students, our colleagues working in all areas of the college and our extended community members who support us and partner with us to help make great things happen for students and for northern Arizona.

4. What experiences will you draw upon to lead the College's commitment to "Student Success"?

I will utilize my experience in community college advocacy with many different constituencies and my experience in teaching and learning, along with my experience serving students, faculty and staff in leading student success initiatives. This includes but is not limited to my experience with the following: Legislative advocacy, community involvement, learning assessment, student success programs with best practices, accessibility for outlying areas, fund-raising, articulation and partnership agreements, and new program development. The commitment to student success as a national priority is exciting.

Those of us who have devoted our careers to the mission of the community college know that, for us, it always has been and always will be about putting students first.

5. What excites you most about working at CCC?

The people excite me the most – students, faculty, staff, the District Governing Board, members of the community. Life is short, and we spend a lot of it at work. For me, it really is about the people. Everyone I have met at the college has shown a sincere concern for students and learning. CCC has a strong district governing board with dedicated members who bring varied life and work experiences to support the college. The opportunities I have had to interact with them have demonstrated that they truly care about the college and the communities of Coconino County. They are more than generous with their time and service to the college. I am enthusiastically looking forward to meeting more people, visiting our communities, and working alongside my colleagues to help strengthen Coconino Community College.

6. What do you foresee as the benefits of a collaborative relationship with NAU?

CCC/Flag Fire air trailer gets facelift



The new Coconino Community College / Flagstaff Fire Department air trailer is ready for duty.

Flagstaff, Ariz. - A mobile air trailer used to refill firefighter self-contained breathing apparatus cylinders has received a facelift.

The trailer, purchased by Coconino Community College, is used in partnership with the Flagstaff Fire Department. The new paint job on the trailer illustrates that partnership.

"Our CCC Fire Science students are given the benefit of utilizing the Flagstaff Fire Department's state-of-the-art training facility and equipment as a part of their Fire Science education. CCC is able to return the favor through an intergovernmental agreement by allowing the fire department to have this important piece of equipment available for their use on a wide variety of fire and hazardous materials incidents," said David Manning, CCC Emergency Medical Services and Fire Science Coordinator.

The trailer will perform two functions. It will be used to refill SCBA cylinders

used by CCC Fire Science students while training on live fire drills, and it will also be used by the Flagstaff Fire Department during emergencies so firefighters don't have to leave the scene of a fire to refill SCBA cylinders. In the past, the fire crews would have to leave a scene and travel back to a fire station to refill the cylinders.

The CCC/FFD partnership includes the use of the fire department's training facility, which includes a smoke tower to train CCC students on fire behavior, fire attack, search and rescue and more. CCC assists the fire department by providing EMT and Fire Science classes for potential recruits and current crews seeking ongoing training.

The trailer was purchased in 2014 for \$86,000 using Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) funds. Under the agreement with the fire department, the trailer will be stored at the fire station on the corner of Ponderosa Parkway and East Route 66.

The CCC2NAU collaboration demonstrates that both institutions are committed to serving students and our county. Collaborations of this nature make all entities stronger and empower students to succeed. I have worked to develop dual admissions community college/university partnerships as well as statewide undergraduate education outcomes with curriculum alignment, and I have seen the benefit to students. Our students are very fortunate to have access to this program. I can't wait to meet more of the folks at NAU

existing partnerships. I would like to meet with members of the business community—listen, ask questions, learn and work hard to gain their trust and support while meeting their educational needs.

8. What role do you think the College can play in economic development for the county?

Our role can and should be integral to bringing new opportunities and partnerships to our county and to help

"The people excite me the most – students, faculty, staff, the District Governing Board, members of the community."

Colleen A. Smith
CCC President

and continue this great partnership!

7. How do you engage the business community with CCC's mission?

By asking for their input concerning how CCC can better serve their training needs, whether it is through creating new programs or enhancing and expanding

develop the economic infrastructure. Service to non-profit organizations and to business and industry helps all of us build a stronger community. I cannot say enough about being a part of the Coconino County communities—we are proud to be a community college!