



Report of Activities • July-August 2009

**Andrew Dorsey
President**

All Coloradans shall have access to comprehensive community college educational programs.

- The fall semester opened to an unprecedented number of students. The Office of Institutional Research reports a “first-day freeze” of 17,687 students (unduplicated headcount). This is a 13.5 percent increase in headcount over fall 2008 and a 21 percent increase from fall 2007. At the space-constricted Larimer Campus, 33 class sections were offered at Regis University’s Fort Collins site, and deans report more than 80 percent occupancy there.
- At last report, Financial Aid had a 200 percent increase in initial awards year to date.
- The Children’s Place, the lab school and early childhood center at the Westminster Campus that removes a barrier to education by providing quality child care for students, received a four-star rating from Qualistar. That is the highest possible rating, and is based on curriculum, facilities, staff training, and other factors.
- Gateway to College, a dropout retrieval program at the Westminster Campus that opened in 2008, starts the 2009 school year with more than a hundred students from three school districts. Gateway to College had its first student receive a high school diploma over the summer.
- A total of 28 students are attending FRCC with Daniels Fund scholarships.
- The FRCC Foundation is supporting 100 students with scholarships this semester. The foundation board has committed to providing \$150,000 in scholarships.
- The Westminster Campus started a Migrant Education Summer Program with 11 students from school districts 12, 50 and 27J. Classes were in Language Arts, Math, and Study Skills.
- A task force developed an outreach plan and designated Financial Aid staff as the point of contact for the Colorado Homeless Unaccompanied Youth Transition to Higher Education program.

The demands of Colorado businesses and communities shall be met through the development of a highly skilled work force.

- A Clean Energy Technology Program opened at the Larimer Campus with two cohorts of 24 students each. The initial plan called for one cohort, but demand from students was so great that two cohorts opened and a waiting list started.
- More than 2,600 students and 1,600 employers are registered with Front Range Connect, a Web-based job posting and job recruiting site.
- FRCC is in discussion with Journey's Aviation, Jepperson Aviation, Safer Jet, and On the Wings of Eagles Foundation regarding a program in aviation technology.
- An Emergency Telecommunications advisory committee is reviewing proposed certificates. The next step will be the state program approval process. First delivery – spring 2010.

Colorado students shall have seamless opportunities to transition from high school into college and from two-year institutions into four-year institutions.

- Articulation agreements between FRCC and Adams County District 27J have been finalized. Already the school district is seeking expanded PSEO offerings in criminal justice and calculus II at FRCC-Brighton Center.
- FRCC is offering both PSEO classes and classes for the community at the new Adams City High School. The Adams City PSEO cadre contributes to the total of 281 high school students enrolled in Westminster Campus-based PSEO offerings.
- Advisors met with Naropa Institute representatives to learn about transfer opportunities.
- FRCC has new 3+1 agreements with Regis University in accounting, business, business administration, computer information systems, and human resources management.
- A new high school program – Law Enforcement Exploration – has opened at the Larimer Campus with 42 students enrolled. The Larimer Campus has 10 career/technical programs that enroll more than 400 high school students. Each program articulates to a postsecondary program.
- Discussions are under way to expand transition possibilities at FRCC-Brighton Center at the Brighton Learning and Resource Campus. District 27J and FRCC are considering an Allied Health partnership that includes CNA, EMT Basic, Pharmacy Technician, and Medical Assisting/Office Technology programs. Colorado State University Continuing Education has an interest in marketing continuing education and CSU Global programs in Brighton, as well as a residential baccalaureate program.

- A joint FRCC-University of Northern Colorado partnership in ASL interpreting is in development.
- Information sessions are scheduled in September for a new 2+2 program for registered nurses with associate degrees to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Metropolitan State College of Denver. Most classes would be taught at the Westminster Campus.

Colorado students shall have the opportunity to succeed through high quality, cutting-edge instruction and educational services.

- All eight students who took part in College Connection, an intensive summer program to transition GED students into FRCC enrolled for the fall semester.
- Colt Bentley, an adult basic education student, was selected as a Student of the Year by the Colorado Adult Education Professional Association.
- A series of 16 videos covering prerequisite topics for College Algebra is ready for the fall semester. A schedule will be published to match the semester outline. Students needing to brush up on Intermediate Algebra can download each video right before the topic is used in the class discussion.
- Early Childhood Education is working through the accreditation process with the National Association for the Education of Young Children.
- The Nursing Program at the Larimer Campus has submitted its self-study to the National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission.
- Automotive Technology at Larimer has submitted its application for reaccreditation from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation.
- The science lab at FRCC's new location in Brighton opened for fall semester classes. The Platte Valley Hospital Foundation supported the construction.

The financial stability of the system's institutions and the physical safety of its students shall be ensured.

- In response to the general fund cuts by the state legislature, the college developed an FY 10 budget that freezes almost all base operating costs, including all permanent positions, despite the growth in enrollment. We have also set aside an amount of general funds equal to the federal stimulus allocation for either one-time expense or reserves.
- Campus advising and counseling centers have connected with online health and wellness resources for students – Ulifeline and PingMe.
- An Emergency Controlled Maintenance project for a College Hill Library fire line project is in the construction phase.
- A contract has been awarded for a controlled maintenance project Repair Boiler Room Structural Roof Tees Westminster Campus.

- The center elevator at the Westminster Campus has been upgraded to new ADA standards.

Miscellaneous

- Andy Dorsey became FRCC's president on July 1.
- Cabinet-level appointments: Jennifer Sobanet, vice president for finance and administration; Linda Curran, vice president, Boulder County Campus; and Jim Butzek, vice president, Larimer Campus, takes on added responsibility as chief academic officer.
- Therese Brown, dean of instruction, has been appointed interim vice president of the Westminster Campus; Cathy Pellish, Math faculty and former chair, becomes interim dean of instruction
- Barbara Bollmann, dean of instruction at the Boulder County Campus, retired.
- More than 2,000 people attended performances of "Journey Back to OZ," the Front Range Family Theatre Project's outdoor theater production this summer at the Larimer Campus.
- FRCC's Small Business Development Centers received the following honors:
 - Mary Fischer, retiring director at Larimer, received the Colorado SBDC Achievement Award. Since 2000, Mary and her volunteers and staff assisted Larimer County small businesses in obtaining more than \$25 million in funding, creating 664 jobs, retaining 623 jobs, and starting 146 new businesses.
 - Jesse Esparza, counselor at Westminster, was recognized as the Colorado SBDC Counselor of the Year. Jesse has provided quality counseling to many clients in Adams, Boulder and Weld counties. Jesse also is the Spanish-language counselor for SBDC clients.
 - The City of Loveland received the Colorado SBDC Sponsor of the Year Award.
 - Andrea Grant received the Volunteer of the Year Award for her efforts for the Larimer office.
- A renovated Longs Peak Student Center opened for the fall semester at the Larimer Campus.
- The Westminster Campus again was the start and finish for the MS150 bicycle event. FRCC's team of 14 riders raised more than \$5,000.