FRONT RANGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Report of Activities • November 2012

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President

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

- FRCC-BCC hosted a Veterans Day Observation/Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship dedication for the late Jerome Lewis, FRCC graduate and past president of the FRCC-BCC Veterans Club. The celebration brought together the local veteran community, including parents, friends and various veteran service organizations, as well as state Senator Brandon Shaefer. For the Veterans Day observation portion of the program, the American Legion opened with the flag-posting, followed by the POW reading, and then a very moving rendition of the national anthem by Jerome Lewis’ daughter. A veteran student offered a prayer in his military regalia. Remarks by FRCC President Dorsey and BCC Campus VP Curran recalled Jerome’s tenacity in assisting veteran students on campus. Leaders of PTK and the FRCC Foundation presented a plaque establishing the PTK Jerome Lewis Scholarship Fund, to Jerome’s family. The fund will provide full-time, degree-seeking veteran students, with a 3.0 or higher GPA, a $300 scholarship to assist with books and other academic needs.

- To begin increasing online student success by 5% over the next three years, FRCC Online Learning conducted a survey of faculty and instructors who teach online courses. 133 people responded (57%), providing specifics about steps they currently take to help students succeed so that we can share successful strategies with other faculty, as well as their own insights into what the College can do to improve student success based on their daily interactions with students in the virtual classroom. Using this feedback, the online chairs and lead faculty are teaming up with the instructional design and student services staff to prepare a plan to address the highest priority needs this spring, from professional development opportunities for faculty to identification of pilot courses where we will test a combination of instructional, course design and student services strategies to see which combinations have the most potential to impact student success.

- On Thursday, November 1, the FRCC-BCC Latino Club hosted a celebration of El Día de los Muertos. The event was a great success with over 150 attendees, including many community members. There were nine altars set up from different departments, students, and the Latino Club. Entertainment consisted of folkloric dancers (Bailes de mi Tierra) and singers (Cantos de mi Tierra) from the Longmont Senior Center, and a student from Brazil who gave a brief demonstration on Capoeira (Brazilian martial arts). Traditional food was served by students, who also danced to Mexican music after the food was served. At Larimer, Students from Beverly Byer’s Psychology of Death and Dying class created altar displays in observance of El Día de los Muertos. The display was open to the public November 1st and 2nd in the Harmony Library.
The demands of Colorado businesses and communities shall be met through the development of a highly skilled work force.

- The FRCC Corporate Solutions Department has been hosting DACUM (research for occupational analysis) processes with industry leaders to begin to build curriculum for a short-term Web Development Course. These companies include Markit On Demand, Rally Software, Red Rocket Media, and Madwire. Several members of the Fort Collins Internet Professionals will be helping assist in the development of the curriculum and will provide recruiting opportunities for the training. This is funded through the H1B Grant awarded to FRCC.
- The Foundation’s grant proposal to the Colorado Garden Show to build a greenhouse on the Westminster campus made it to the final round of review. We will make a presentation to the CGS Board in December.

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

- In December, the FRCC Foundation Board will be announcing three-prong $100,000 matching challenges to increase current named scholarships, secure first-time scholarship donations and increase our endowment.
- The Foundation hosted three scholarship events with 242 scholarship recipients attending. The events included:
  1) A “Next Steps” Seminar designed to help scholars define success, and take steps toward that success by creating strategies to meet specific goals.
  2) A workshop to provide a head start on applying for scholarships here at FRCC and externally for returning and university transferring students. Topics included: finding scholarship opportunities, tips to ask for letters of recommendation, essay writing and resources available at FRCC (Academic Advising) as well as information about joining Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), an international honor society of two-year colleges.
  3) A meet “Transfer” Seminar to help scholarship recipients planning to transfer to a 4 year university or college. This event allowed scholars to network and meet professionals and professors from the 4 year universities and colleges on a more personal level. In addition to networking there was a brief presentation given by an FRCC, Regis, and CSU Academic Advisor on the transfer Process.
- The Foundation will open our scholarship application period for Fall 2013 awards on December 1st.

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

- Suzanne Villiers, Director of Nursing at FRCC–WC, received the NCLEX licensure reports in November. All 42 graduates from last semester finally tested with a 95% pass rate.
- The Social & Behavioral Sciences Department now has an outdoor fenced yard for Criminal Justice crime scenes, Archeological dig sites, and Physical Geography soil labs. Archeology instructors are conducting GPS mapping labs and the forensic anthropology instructor has buried various articulated and unarticulated cow bones and other items so students can use them next year to determine decay rates. Jeannette Mobley-Tanaka, lead ANT faculty, is collecting materials to set up a partially buried archaeology dig site, which students will excavate and map. CRJ lead faculty Laura Manuel has been
using the enclosure for setting up crime scenes. On Halloween, her program sponsored a simulated serial killer dumping ground and invited the student body to participate in profiling the crime scene. About 70 students, including the high school CRJ students, participated by examining the clues (bodies, skeletal parts, footprints, cigarette butts, clothing, jewelry, receipts, etc.) to try to come up with a profile of the killer. Prizes were awarded to the winners.

- On October 25th, Nancy Sommers visited with our composition instructors (25) during a four hour meet-and-great lunch, and a two-hour workshop. Dr. Sommers is a renowned expert in the field of composition studies, former Director of Harvard’s Writing Program, and current professor in the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Her research through the years has added to our understanding of the importance of comments for students in their writing development and academic careers. She talked about her research, official and unofficial, about trends she has seen in changing programs, and practices composition teachers should adopt. Her two hour workshop is called, “Responding to Student Writers: Beyond the Red Ink.” The purpose of the workshop was to help us see the power of the comments we write on student papers and have face-to-face with students, to help us be more strategic in the lessons we want our comments to teach, and to be more efficient in the time we spend on this important work.

- FRCC faculty Farah Bennani and Anjali Vaidya had their proposal entitled “MedTag and Project Outbreak: Why Global Matters!” accepted at the Global Education conference. Both an English and a French version were submitted. [http://www.globaleducationconference.com/page/2012-conference](http://www.globaleducationconference.com/page/2012-conference). Project Outbreak is a series of augmented reality scenarios where biology students track the global connections and implications of a case that has happened in their geographic location. Inspired by the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service, instructors have taken what was to be a geolocated augment reality simulation and made it global. MedTag has biology students testing out new methods and new technologies to investigate medical incidents in their geographic area that have global connections. The cases assigned have been chosen because of the results found with the MedTag algorithm. Students are given a scenario where a high MedTag algorithmic value indicates a high probability of misdiagnosis coupled with a high probability of the incident area originating outside the United States. Instructors have developed five scenarios that have allowed them to flip their biology classes and take student outside to investigate a medical incident that may have a global origin or have global implications. These five scenarios besides meeting curriculum common core competencies promote global connection and impact and have students using a global viewpoint to solve real-world problems. Technologies used in the scenarios include students’ mobile device, TagWhat geolocation app, Google Hangout On Air and Google maps.

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

- General contractor interviews for the new integrated technology building were held on November 6th, and space planning meetings are being held for Phase II of the campus space planning.
- FRCC–Westminster has created phone extension user groups for Connect Ed giving the college another layer of communicating with a campus community during an emergency. The six phone groups are: JFK, Larimer, Boulder County, Westminster, Brighton and an All College group. These groups are now available in Connect Ed Contact_Groups.
- On Sunday, October 28, the Longmont Police Department SWAT training took place at the FRCC-Boulder County Campus. Longmont Police held active shooter, rescue and recovery, tactics and policy training in the classroom building. About 12 SWAT trainers and 25 officers from the Longmont Police Department attended. Police Explorers and trainers were staged in mock situations for responding officers to engage them as live critical exercises. Simulation ammunition (SIMS paintball)
was used in firearms by suspects and officers. Officers demonstrated search and rescue techniques along with responding to active shooter situations. Officers also participated in classroom training and policy by the department.

Miscellaneous

- FRCC-Larimer held a diversity symposium entitled: “Creating Inclusive Communities,” on November 7th and 8th. Among the highlights was an interactive presentation and workshop by Panama Soweto, a performance writer, emcee, and educator who has worked as a teacher for the Denver Housing Authority and has won awards for his slam poetry.
- The FRCC Theater Program presented Shakespeare’s Macbeth at the Bas Bleu Theater in several performances from October 26th through November 3rd. The play was directed by FRCC theater instructor and award-winning director Peter Anthony.
- Students from Beverly Byer’s Psychology of Death and Dying class created altar displays in observance of El Día de los Muertos, the Latin American traditional recognition of deceased loved ones. The display was open to the public November 1st and 2nd in the Harmony Library.
- Dr. Jana Schwartz was hired as the new Larimer Campus Student Services Dean, and she will begin the middle of December.
- The spring Enrollment Campaign is in full swing. Advertising, which began in October, will continue through the first week in January. In addition to out-of-home (bus sides, outdoor bulletin boards, transit shelters, coffee sleeves), newspaper and online display ads, we have added something new. Animated online ads, online sliding billboards and a special network of online placements called Q1 Media Student Lifestyle Network were added. Q1 includes education and study sites geared to the 18-34 student market.
- The Science Department is advising students in the Bio Club. The club has and there are 7 core members and 48 members total. Some learning opportunities arranged by the club include:
  - Inviting a guest speaker from CU Boulder who had a wonderful presentation on how to write a resume, apply for the various scholarships and fellowships that are available. Biology career paths and how to go about these paths were also included.
  - Field trip to CU Boulder. The Bio Club visited the MCDB department to see Transmission Electron Microscope and the Genetic Research labs where students got to see the fruit flies.
- The Alpha Mu Psi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa purchased and planted a “Hot Wings Maple” (Acer tartaricum) dedicating it to the PTK Chapter to provide a lasting memorial recognizing the many years of student participation past, present and future. The group also sold books and created a PTK student scholarship for $1000 to be given to a qualified applicant. We are very proud of this very active student group that not only are high achievers scholastically, but are also leaders serving in many different service projects for the community.