President's Report:  Dr. Michele Haney | June-July 2015

Transform the student experience.

- The National Science Foundation (NSF) announced that the Red Rocks student team placed first in their national Community College Innovation Challenge. Four computer science students from RRCC--Keya Lea Horiuchi, Scotty Hall, Nathan Tiedt, and Kaia Chapman--won with their innovative Mobile Medical Disaster Relief Dispensation Unit. This secure, portable device with 3-D printed parts would allow medical teams to easily and accurately monitor drug administration to those in need, making disaster relief quicker and safer.

- Rocky Mountain Education Center, the Continuing Education Division of RRCC, was invited to present their new workforce development program for Facilities Engineering Technicians (FET) in Washington D.C. at the Department of Energy (DOE) Better Buildings Summit. The FET program meets the needs specified by DOE for Building Operations Professionals.

- RRCC celebrated LGBTQ pride on June 17 with a Pride Picnic for students, faculty, and staff. RRCC also hosted a booth at Denver Pridefest on June 20-21 and made contact with 312 potential students.

- Red Rocks Community College is hosting an exhibit of “The Graham and Barbara Curtis Collection” from June 18 through August 11 in the Susan K. Arndt Gallery located at the Lakewood campus. The exhibit features 82 Colorado-centric prints from the Curtis Collection providing a fascinating glimpse into the history of Colorado. Many of the prints, which range in date from 1822 to 1885, are the work of very well-known artists, who demonstrate their artistic skill and perspectives on travel through the Old West through these paintings.

- RRCC participated in Sand in the City in Arvada and won third place for their sculpture. The Red Rocks team of 17 included college staff and students, as well as their friends and family. The team competed against eight other local teams to build their sculpture—a mythological Kraken sea creature, mermaid, shipwreck, and treasure chest.

Transform our own workforce experience.

- The High School Relations team of Marilyn Kenfield and Nina Ysais were honored with Jefferson County Counselor Association’s 2014-2015 Advocate of the Year Award for their leadership in helping high school students gain college credit through RRCC’s Concurrent Enrollment program.

- To expand the reach of Concurrent Enrollment (CE), High School Relations has trained RRCC’s Student Outreach and Retention department’s Student Ambassadors to assist with CE application workshops at high schools.
• High School Relations participated in the Counselor in Residence event by offering a presentation on Concurrent Enrollment/ASCENT.

**Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.**

• RRCC High School Relations and Instructional Services are partnering with WarrenTech to explore computer technology pathways and new certificate options.

• RRCC was awarded a *Campus Suicide Prevention Grant* funded through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The three-year, $274,405 grant will support RRCC in expanding behavioral health services to include suicide prevention and awareness. The goals of the project are to establish a coordinated and knowledgeable suicide prevention networking infrastructure that connects the campus to the community; develop a network of students, faculty, and staff identified as gatekeepers who can respond effectively to students with mental and substance use disorders; and to foster a culture of help-seeking on the RRCC campus through education of students, faculty, and staff targeted at reducing negative attitudes toward those seeking care for mental health and substance use disorders.

**Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.**

• RRCC broke ground on July 16 on a $22.5 million expansion to our Arvada location. The new state-of-the-art Health Sciences Campus will triple the size and capacity of the Arvada campus. The Health Sciences Campus will house all of the college’s health professions programs in one place. To date, nearly $20 million has been raised for the construction, which will be completed in summer of 2016 in time for fall semester.

• In June, RRCC received the final approval to confer a *Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS)* on graduates of the physician assistant program. The final approval received from the program’s accreditation agency marks the end of a five year process involving approval by the Colorado Legislature in 2013, the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and the Higher Learning Commission earlier in 2015. The program will begin advertising the graduate degree this fall with admission for the degree opening spring 2016. The first MPAS class is expected to begin their studies fall 2017.

• RRCC was awarded the *TRIO Student Support Services* grant through the U.S. Department of Education. This three-year grant will establish a Student Support Services (SSS) program on the Lakewood campus to serve low-income, first-generation and/or disabled students that show academic need. The SSS program goal is to increase retention and completion through a targeted intervention that includes both academic and student success support services. The total amount requested was $1,099,645 (exact amount granted pending official notification).

• RRCC received a grant of *$972,892* from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration to implement a *Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) program*. The PCMH has become a widely proposed model to address the deficiencies in primary care, offering a framework proven to increase access to care and patient health while reducing overall cost. Central to this transformational model is team-based care, often anchored by the physician–physician assistant team.