Create education without barriers through transformational partnerships.

- Three exceptional PPCC students had the opportunity of a lifetime to participate in a collaborative Quad Innovation Boot Camp program this summer. This intense, month-long program was packed with opportunities for the students to hear from successful entrepreneurs, tackle practical challenges, and connect with legal, marketing and financial advisors who are eager to help these bright young students in pursuing their own innovative ideas or business ventures.

  Three of the 12 students participating are from Pikes Peak Community College, with the remainder from The Colorado College (CC) and University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS). The camp was hosted at UCCS and managed by Quad Innovation Program Director Casey Harms, with curriculum co-organized with Jacob Eichengreen, a graduate of Venture for America, which helped shape the boot camp experience.

  This pilot program is the first step in a collaborative effort between the local colleges, PPCC, UCCS, CC and the U.S. Air Force Academy (whose students could not participate this year due to the scheduling) to create a center for entrepreneurship to support ideas and innovative thinking in the community.

- PPCC Kids College served 95 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students in its summer Kids College program in July. Of those, 21 students enrolled in more than one program, bringing the duplicated head count to 171. Students explored “cool careers” in 3D Printing, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Fire Science, Graphic Design, Robotics, and Zoo Keeping. PPCC instructors along with their PPCC college and high school students taught the weeklong courses. Scholarship funds for students from low-income, minority, or military families were provided by Peyton Manning’s Peyback Foundation. Each student was asked to write a testimonial at the end of the week. This one, from a 9th grader, says it all: “I very well think that this class is a fun and exciting class for animal lovers. After taking this [Zoo Keeping] class, I want to become a zoologist more than ever!”

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

- This year, four academic divisions within the Business, Public Service & Social Sciences Division will complete a rigorous Program Review. PPCC’s Paralegal, Anthropology, Culinary Arts, and Fire Science Technology departments will
complete an in-depth evaluation of their programs using a wide array of resources. The programs will evaluate 5-years of institutional data, work with their respective advisory boards, and seek inputs from peers from other disciplines to identify suitable improvements to be made to each program. These reviews will complement Program Reviews that were completed last year in the Business, Computer Networking, Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, Social Work, and Sociology programs.

- Last fall semester, the **Office of Accommodative Services & Instructional Support** (OASIS) began working closely with our High School Programs and District 20 schools to educate our high school students and disability services counterparts about the differences between high school processes and college life for students with disabilities. This fall semester, OASIS has continued to work with D20 but has added District 49 schools as well. We have developed a process to be directly engaged with high school students with disabilities, their instructors, counselors and coaches as they transition into Higher Education. It is a great opportunity for us to connect and educate our prospective students of the challenges AND the student success supports that are available to them at PPCC. At this time, we are scheduled to meet with approximately 60 students total from both D20 and D49 to ensure they have an accessible educational career at PPCC.

Our outreach efforts will not cease, as we are in line to meet with and partner with District 11 in the near future. As we continue to expand our efforts to more high schools through presentations at parent information nights, weekend fairs, and faculty/counselor orientations at the school districts, it is our hope that we will be able to reach our students with disabilities; provide them support and training on self-advocacy; and encourage this population to persist through graduation.

**Other News**

- **Constitution Day** at PPCC is celebrated with dramatic readings from our Founding Documents that tell the stories of how the ideas, language and changes came to be. This is a more personalized way of looking at the history and rhetoric of our Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights—the wars fought over them, the passionate speeches and letters that gave birth to them, the attempts to limit some Americans from inclusion in them and those Americans’ efforts to be included. Few people know that the Declaration of Independence almost made an anti-slavery statement, or that women gained and lost the vote in one state during the revolutionary era, or that slaves petitioned for their freedom at that same time.

The event, sponsored by the Learning Community classes of COM 115 and HIS 121 will take place at the PPCC Rampart Range Campus Library from 10:00-11:30 and/or 1:00-2:30 on Wednesday, September 16.