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Community College of Denver

2007-08 annual report

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER FOUNDATION, INC.

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The Community College of Denver Foundation, Inc. lost a founding member and great friend on Jan. 22, 2008 when Jack B. Weil passed away at his home after an eight-month

battle with esophageal cancer. He was 79.

Weil served on CCD Foundation, Inc. Board from its inception in 1992.

Born on Nov. 13, 1928, Weil was the son of Jack A. Weil, Rockmount Ranch Wear Manufacturing Company's founder and CEO.

Jack B. Weil attended the University of Colorado and graduated from Tulane University in 1952. He served for two years in the U.S. Army before returning to Denver to join the family business as head of the design department. Among his best-known designs were the shirts John Travolta wore in *Urban Cowboy*.

Weil is credited with making Rockmount's snap-front Western shirts popular among celebrities and celebrities at heart from all over the world. The downtown store is a Denver icon and well-known tourist attraction. Weil retired as vice-president of Rockmount in July 2007.

An avid art collector, Weil took up painting in the 1960s. He became a prolific and accomplished artist with his own abstract impressionist style. A month before his death, Weil exhibited his artwork in a one-man show at the Berkeley Park Art Gallery in northwest Denver.

Weil's survivors include his son, Steven, and daughter, Judy Oksner, both of Denver; a sister, Jane Romberg of Steamboat Springs; and three grandchildren.

regards

PRESIDENT'S

Letter



Generations ago, a new president challenged a country to imagine the impossible. In the context of kindling their imagination, John F. Kennedy urged them to see themselves beyond their human limitations. Even more extraordinary was the justification applied to his words, as he reminded those listening to purposefully pursue those things that are difficult because, he reasoned, therein lay the opportunity for true accomplishment. The years we now know as history have proven Kennedy's words to be true. How many of us would be surprised to learn this lesson — of great vision and fearless application of self in the context of impossibility — is what thousands of Community College of Denver students do every day.

In my 30 years of personal service to community colleges, I've known one constant truth: community colleges are places of great hope where extraordinary things happen. I know this to be true as a former community college student, and by witnessing that which is practiced at CCD everyday. It is as apparent in the faces of our students as it is in the encouraging words of faculty and staff that guide and nurture both the most capable and the most vulnerable through challenges and celebrations.

In getting to know the students, faculty, and staff at CCD, I have had many inspiring conversations. But the words and every day heroics of students is most profound. First generation students, full-time mothers and fathers, children of immigrant families, honor students all speak of the opportunity that a community college education presents to them, and they express their appreciation for that opportunity, the sacrifices they have made, and their hopes and dreams. Like JFK, they exemplify the courage of their convictions despite odds that would have extinguished hope in the most resilient among us. They are learning that the inherent difficulty of what they are attempting is the very thing that makes the accomplishment great.

It has been said that if we do what we love, we will never work a day in our lives. This is especially true in community colleges. Here we transform lives. Our students learn to have faith in themselves and capitalize on their strengths. They thrive among a community that embraces its commitment to higher education for all that can benefit. We are proud of our open-door mission and even prouder of our results.

As a donor — or potential donor — you must know something important: what you give to CCD, you give directly to our students. Your gift, regardless of size, is more than a donation. It is so much more than a book, a tuition payment, or even recognition. Your gift is enduring and nothing short of the pure transformational power of hope acknowledged.

We face an economic context that is far less stable than it was only a year ago, and for many of us, giving may feel improbable. Remember that many CCD students are even more susceptible to the economic difficulties that many of us are more capable of handling. Without your generosity, some people with great potential will find that higher education is simply a financial impossibility.

Given this economic reality, I ask you to recall a point in time when someone believed in you — just when you most needed that support. That memory no doubt is inscribed in you. Every time you pay it forward — by supporting someone else — that support grows. Sometimes the simple act of giving to another restores our sense of well-being and provides hope for the future.

Those acts are enduring and every gift makes a difference. Thank you.

Karén Bleeker

Dr. Karén Bleeker, President
Community College of Denver

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Joaquin Dulitzky, 2008-09 Chair

Letter from

CCD FOUNDATION, INC.



Charlie Walling, 2007-08 Chair

90 percent of all revenue goes directly back to the college in the form of programs, scholarships and college initiatives. You help CCD keep higher education accessible and affordable for everyone in our community.

Repercussions

Last November, the Community College of Denver Foundation, Inc., helped CCD celebrate its 40th anniversary with a gala celebration. That milestone in the college's history made us all reflect on the truly great vision for higher education that the Colorado General Assembly signed into law in 1967. That vision included Community College of Denver and the Auraria Campus.

CCD opened in 1970 in a renovated car dealership and grew quickly. In 1976, CCD moved to its permanent home on the Auraria Campus — space it shares with Metropolitan State College of Denver and the University of Colorado at Denver. More than 40 years after legislators conceived of this great urban campus, it has changed many thousands of lives.

The Auraria Campus is the only one of its kind in the country. The opportunities available on 124 acres in the heart of Denver are endless!

Students of all ages and experiences can start at CCD, earn an associate's degree and transfer to Metro State or UC Denver for a bachelor's degree. Many of our students continue on the Auraria Campus to complete graduate studies at UC Denver. A number of people who now work at CCD did just that. They know the college because they are alumni and they share that knowledge and experience with current students.

For all who have generously supported the CCD Foundation, Inc.: Thank you! You give students the chance to reinvent themselves through education.

The CCD Foundation, Inc., takes great pride in the fact that 90 percent of all revenue goes directly back to the college in the form of programs, scholarships and college initiatives. Revenue this year supported the President's First Generation Scholarship program, the Denver Transfer Initiative Endowed Scholarship program, student life programs including child care and student food bank, Early Childhood

Education, the Confucius Institute and the Stephenson Opportunity Scholarship program.

The Foundation, Inc.'s strategic vision for 2009 and beyond includes strengthening our relationship with CCD Alumni, focusing our energy on new and innovative fundraising opportunities, wisely growing our investment portfolio, and creating an "Endowed Academic Chair" program.

CCD plays a vital role in our local economy by empowering people to improve their circumstances through higher education. In the past 40 years, more than 30,000 people have graduated from CCD and many continue to live and work in Colorado. They contribute to our economic health — typically more than they would without a college education.

When you support the CCD Foundation, Inc., you support the greater Denver community. You create opportunities and change the lives of ordinary people. You help a range of students — traditional and non-traditional — realize their potential. You contribute to new partnerships being forged with Denver's local high schools, businesses and industries. You help CCD keep higher education accessible and affordable for everyone in our community. You make success attainable for people who never thought they could go to college.

On behalf of CCD and all of its students, thank you for your continued support!

Joaquin Dulitzky, Chair 2008-09
Charlie Walling, Chair 2007-08

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REVISITING 2007/08



Jerry Darnell, Associate of Arts Degree, 2007
Currently at UC Denver on a full academic scholarship and a married father of four children

The 2007-08 fiscal year started with Interim-President Barbara O'Donnell at the helm and a presidential search under way. In January, Colorado Community College System President, Nancy McCallin, announced the appointment of Dr. Karén Clos-Bleeker as President of CCD.

Relevant experience

Bleeker came to Denver from Temple, Texas, a metropolitan area of about 350,000 people that lies between Austin and Waco. Bleeker had been the vice president of Educational Services and chief academic officer of the Temple College District for four years. Prior to her work in Texas, Bleeker was the chief academic officer of Barton County Community College in Great Bend, Kan., and assistant to the chancellor of the West Valley-Mission Community College District in Saratoga, Calif.

Bleeker earned her doctorate in educational administration from the University of Texas at Austin's prestigious Community College Leadership Program (CCLP) in 1997. She holds two master's degrees — one in adult education from the University of Incarnate Word and the other in counseling from the University of Texas at San Antonio. During her graduate studies, CCLP awarded Bleeker the Sid W. Richardson Fellowship. She earned fellowships from the American Association of University Women, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development, and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Inc. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in sociology from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.

CCD's new president has the education and professional qualifications to lead the college into the future. Perhaps her most valuable experience for the job is being a community college alumna herself. Bleeker's own experience as a non-traditional student at St. Philip's College in San Antonio mirrors that of so many CCD students.

Reaffirming learning-centered principles

Bleeker jumped in to her new role with both feet and immediately called for a strategic conversation with faculty and staff from all over the college with the goal of examining the organizational structure. In simple terms, Bleeker wants every employee to examine how they do things, suggest better processes and ask for whatever they need to do their jobs better.

"Specifically, I want to affirm that the key leadership role in a learning-centered college is not a traditional top-down proposition. It is the front line learning leadership — our chairs, mid-level academic leaders like deans, associate deans and division directors — who have the most potential to help us achieve significant learning gains by reshaping the culture and organization of the college to support and empower the best work of faculty, advisors, case managers and learning support staff," Bleeker wrote in a memo to the college.

Bleeker continues to applaud CCD for its legacy of commitment to being learning-centered college, thus improving their agility, flexibility and communication. She encourages employees at every level to take ownership of their work and to strengthen the academic programs and student services they provide.

"The unique thing about CCD that made me successful there was the fact that I knew it was the first step and if I could get through this first step — because I'm adamant about getting a master's degree — then I can do the rest."

SIX LEARNING COLLEGE PRINCIPLES

1. The learning college creates a substantive change in individual learners.
2. The learning college engages learners as full partners in the learning process, with learners assuming primary responsibility for their own choices.
3. The learning college creates and offers as many options for learning as possible.
4. The learning college assists learners to form and participate in collaborative learning activities.
5. The learning college defines the roles of learning facilitators by the needs of the learners.
6. The learning college and its learning facilitators succeed only when improved and expanded learning can be documented for its learners.

College-wide Goals

1. Increase student learning, retention and success
2. Improve workforce and career development
3. Strengthen ongoing professional development

Redefining purpose

CCD's Strategic Planning Committee worked hard over the past year to solidify the college's mission, vision and goals. The group, made up of employees at all levels and from every corner of the college, focused on CCD's strengths and commitment to be a learning-centered institution.

Vision

Transforming lives through learning. We are:

- Passionate about Student Success
- Relevant in Educational Opportunities
- Grounded in Community Enrichment
- Inclusive in Vibrant Hospitality

Mission

Community College of Denver is a gateway to create academic and career competitiveness that meets the evolving economic, educational and cultural needs to diverse communities.

CCD's mission is to provide "Education and Opportunity in a Diverse World." Through this mission, the college pledges to provide: 1) Programs that transfer for a baccalaureate degree; 2) Occupational programs for job-entry or upgrading skills; 3) General education courses; 4) Developmental education and community services; and 5) Cooperative inter-institutional programs with Metropolitan State College of Denver and University of Colorado Denver.

Values

Accountability, Diversity, Excellence, Innovation, Integrity, Learning, and Teamwork

When college faculty and staff continue their own learning, it invigorates and inspires them to do excellent work. CCD had the rare opportunity to showcase its people as hosts of the League for Innovation in the Community College's Innovations 2008 Conference at the Adams Mark Hotel in Denver.

The annual conference attracted a diverse group of 2,077 community college educators, administrators, and staff from around the world to share their innovative solutions to issues affecting their campus. The Innovations Conference is the premier event for educators dedicated to improving organizational teaching and learning and discovering new approaches for enhancing the community college experience.

As hosts of the 2008 conference, several CCD administrators and staff served on the steering committee, including: GED/HEP Director Vera Polak, IT Services Executive Director Rick Sparks, Pre-Collegiate Programs Director Gary Cooper, Academic Support Center Director Bret Hann, Arts & Sciences Dean Michael Bautista, Human Resources Executive Assistant Delma Valdez and Associate Dean Connie Strand.

CCD faculty, administrators and staff shared their best practices, leading conference sessions and roundtable discussions including:

- **Mathematics, the Musical: Bring the Sounds of Music Into Your Classroom** — *Barbara Aaker, Mathematics Professor*
- **Nationally Recognized Developmental Education Success Story at Community College of Denver** — *Ken Swiney, Developmental Education Dean and Sam Cassio, Center for Educational Advancement Executive Director*
- **Konnichiwa: Developing Educational Partnerships With Japan** — *Karen Wardle, Associate Dean*
- **Get Real: A Proven Approach for Increasing Retention of Traditionally Underserved Students** — *Michael Johnson, Activity Director, Title V — Denver Transfer Initiative and Tina Maestas, Educational Case Manager, First Generation Student Success*
- **Emergency Preparedness: One Community College's Journey** — *Jerry Mason, Student Life Director*
- **Does Computerized Practice Help Students Succeed?** — *Gudryn Doherty, Mathematics Professor*
- **Students Learning Science With Art and Speech** — *Claire Miller, Science Program Chair*
- **A Consortium of Disability Service Providers Improving Services** — *Nancy Aeschlimann, Center for Persons with Disabilities Case Manager and Interpreter*
- **A Case Management Approach to Serving Students Who Have Disabilities** — *Jean Kelly, Center for Persons with Disabilities Case Manager*
- **CCSSE: Getting Your College Engaged With Student Engagement** — *Darlene Nold, Institutional Research & Planning Executive Director*
- **Bringing Education to the Community and Students to College** — *Vera Polak, GED/HEP Director*
- **Infusing Project Management Into the Curriculum** — *Jean Hindie, Mathematics Professor*
- **The Art of Asking Questions** — *Michael Mackey, English Professor*
- **Has Your Future Been Wired?** — *Ron Vasquez, Access to Collaborative Education in the Sciences Project Director*
- **Learning New Identities: Developmental Education as Identity Transformation** — *Ruth Brancard, Lumina Grant Facilitator*
- **How to Leverage Leadership Development Opportunities With Four-Year Colleges and Universities** — *Ismael Garcia, Coordinator of New Student Orientation Programs*
- **Transition for Students With Disabilities on a Multi-Institutional Campus** — *Glenda Nash-Buscarello, Center for Persons With Disabilities Director*
- **Embracing Diversity: Teaching Field Research Through a Global Peace-Building Experience** — *Dr. Arlene Rhodes, Human Services Professor*

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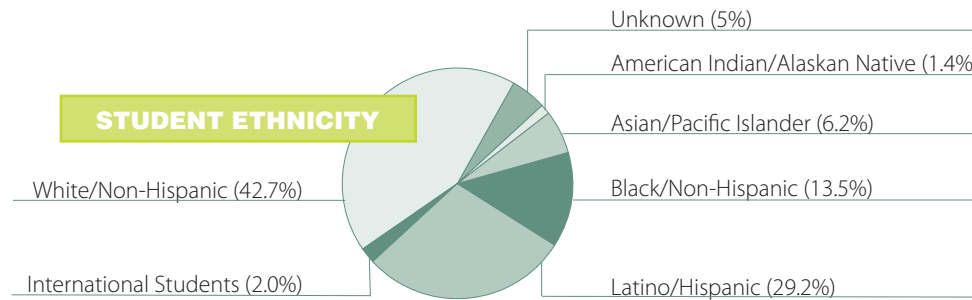
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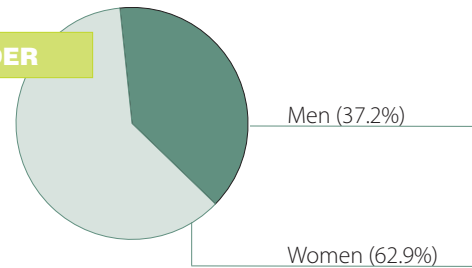
• **Saiya Howlett**
Current CCD student and
single mother of three children

"This school is amazing! It is just perfect for non-traditional students. You come here and you see I'm not the only one who decided to go to college later. I'm not the only one that didn't actually go to college after high school. Wow! I belong here!"

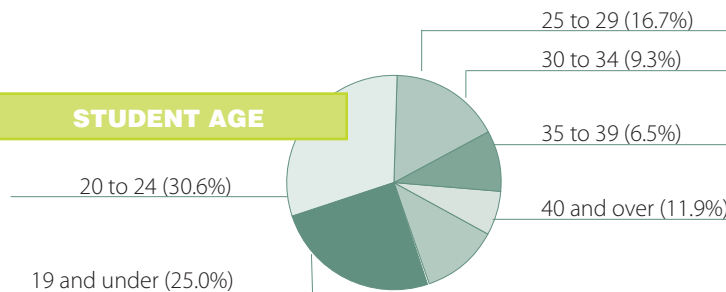
STUDENT ETHNICITY



STUDENT GENDER



STUDENT AGE



2007-08 DEGREES & CERTIFICATES AWARDED

506 Certificates

432 Degrees

FALL ENROLLMENT

Unduplicated Headcount — 8,359

Full-time — 2,054 24.6%

Part-time — 6,305 75.4%

Data based on fall 2007 enrollment statistics.

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Stephenson Opportunity Scholarship

Reaching out to students

Rex and Kate Stephenson, a retired Denver couple saw a great need in their community and they are helping to meet it. As a volunteer with Denver Partners, Rex Stephenson worked for seven years with a young Hispanic man who had trouble staying in school. He earned a GED from Emily Griffith Opportunity School and — with Stephenson's financial help — ended up at CCD. Ultimately, he dropped out, but Stephenson saw the great possibilities CCD held for other students.

The Stephensons worked with the CCD Foundation, Inc., to establish the Stephenson Opportunity Scholarship, primarily for non-resident students who graduated from a Colorado public high school. The Stephensons agreed to give \$20,000 per year for five years, or \$10,000 per semester — enough to help at least 10 students go to college. The couple got involved in reading essays and reviewing scholarship applications.

“The thing that has really made us believers was meeting with the students and their advisors,” Rex Stephenson said. “They told us what their challenges were and we talked about how we could help them meet their goals.”

Early Childhood Education (ECE) Refurbishing

CCD Children's College students — the youngest on the Auraria Campus — will see some improvements on their playground, thanks to the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, Inc.'s grant of \$20,000 to the CCD Foundation, Inc.

Temple Hoyne Buell donated an additional \$60,000 toward the development of a standardized lab and observation component for CCD's Early Childhood Education students.

Education at CCD's Children's College Laboratory School is reciprocal. Students in the ECE program teach the children as part of their degree and certificate work. The children reciprocate giving the college students an opportunity to learn about teaching and providing great childcare services.

The Children's College provides care to children of students, Auraria Campus employees and the surrounding community. In addition to the CCD students who fulfill their laboratory requirements at the Children's College, kids also learn from master teachers who have ECE degrees. The teacher-to-child ratios are excellent and the program provides a great service to the campus community.



Lynne Stefanowski, Academic Advisor



“I do love my job. For me it's 100 percent about the students. They inspire me each and every day and I love being part of their journey to better themselves. There's nothing more rewarding if you ask me!”

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Community College of Denver as of 6/30/08

Revenues

State Appropriations	\$2,217,908
State "Stipend" College Opportunity Fund (COF)	\$10,033,549
Tuition	\$8,528,631
Fees	\$654,971
Grants & Contracts	\$16,800,197
Sales & Services	\$901,051
Auxiliary	\$343,545
Other	\$143,504
Total Revenue	\$39,623,356

Expenses

Instruction	\$17,545,910
Public Service	\$1,739
Academic Support	\$5,833,112
Student Services	\$4,273,821
Institutional Support	\$4,039,521
Plant, Maintenance & Operations	\$2,973,939
Scholarships	\$824,688
Auxiliary Operations	\$353,541
Depreciation	\$52,335
Total Expenditures	\$35,898,606

Net Change in Assets **\$3,724,750**

Community College of Denver Foundation, Inc., as of 6/30/08

Net Assets Beginning of Year **\$812,934.00**

Revenues

General Contributions	\$114,575.00
Investment Income (loss)	(\$5,848.00)
Special Event Income	\$20,128.00
Total Support	\$128,855.00

Expenses

PROGRAM SERVICES

Student Scholarships	\$50,710.00
Support to CCD	\$90,169.00
Total program Services	\$140,879.00

SUPPORTING SERVICES

Management and General	\$13,971.00
Total expenses	\$154,850.00

Net Assets End of Year **\$786,939.00**



Karen Thies-McWilliams
 CCD Psychology Professor

"I have high expectations for all my students. I will assist any student who has intrinsic motivation to reach his or her highest potential. Education is not just memorizing the concepts, but incorporating learned concepts into the student's unique and real life experience."

Charles Parson

CCD Art program chair and renowned artist Charles Parson installed a 65-foot long sculpture at the University of Wyoming's Prexy's Pasture in May. The steel, glass and plastic sculpture, called "Molto Allargando" — an Italian musical term that means a slow swell — stretches low to the ground from east to west with a slow rise and fall across its length. It is one of 15 public artworks in "Sculpture: A Wyoming Invitational." The exhibition runs through July 31, 2009.

Art students at CCD benefit greatly from working with such an accomplished and approachable artist as Parson, who has received a number of awards, including the Alliance for Contemporary Arts 1999 AFKEY Award from the Denver Art Museum; Innovation in the Arts Award from the Colorado Federation of the Arts; and the Museum Educators of the Year Award from the Colorado Arts Education Association.

In addition to his commissioned work and CCD duties, Parson is a contract muralist and illustrator for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Kaylah Campos-Zelig

Winning the Student Choice Faculty of the Year Award for 2008 still gives political science instructor Kaylah Campos-Zelig goosebumps.

"In order to win this award, students had to recommend me. That is overwhelming. Praise is always appreciated, but the praise teachers want most is from their students. I still haven't come down from that high," Campos-Zelig said.

She said that teaching at CCD is her way of positively impacting adult learners and making

a difference. Community college students aren't concerned with giving answers an instructor wants. They give real, thought-provoking answers that challenge instructors.

"Look around the class. Look who I get to hang out with every single workday. People are engaged. They want to learn. They want to think critically. Our classrooms are filled with every type of American — every ethnicity and age — a huge range of backgrounds, beliefs and ideas," Campos-Zelig said. "I learn as much as my students because of my students. It's an honor to teach them."

Kurt Pond

Students love Kurt Pond's philosophy classes so much that it's no surprise he was the 2008 Part-Time Faculty of the Year Award winner. Pond also teaches philosophy at Metro State and at Regis University. Despite the great opportunities those institutions offer, Pond said CCD is his clear favorite.

"Teaching at the Community College of Denver has been the most rewarding for me. The spirit of community and family is what distinguishes CCD from other universities and I am proud to have worked at CCD," Pond said. "Truly my life at CCD could not have been scripted in a more charming way."

Shortly after winning the award for his part-time work, Pond got an offer he couldn't refuse. "After 16 years being a part-time faculty member I was awarded a full-time position. The experience seems surreal and I am still in a state of amazement."

Pond credits Arts & Sciences Dean Michael Bautista and the mentoring of his faculty colleagues



Growing its own — CCD Alumni /Staff

(Pictured) *Back row from left to right:* Randall Longcore, Jack Hurney, Andy Shaffer, Jose Puertas, Walt Pedigo, Willie Martinez
Middle row from left to right: Crystal Hernandez, Lona Juarez, Anna Marie Jones, Josh Frink, Sue Samuelson, Sharon McMillian, Jackie Barton, Gabriella Rodriguez, BJ Wiens, Cynthia Jefferson, Marta Mata
Front row from left to right: Bithiah Coleman, Sharron McCormack, Teri Higgins, Jessica Lanfranco-Caballero, Sofia Hernandez, Delma Valdez, Kim Guthrie



rewarding

for making him such an effective instructor.

Students may appreciate his education — bachelor and master's degrees in applied philosophy — or the array of hats and vests Pond wears or what he calls his “failed attempts at humor.” More likely, students appreciate that Pond is very real. He came to Denver in 1982 with \$400 and the dream of a better life. Pond believes his extensive experience as a bartender is what helps him really relate to students.

Claire Miller

As a full-time science professor and co-chair of that program, Claire Miller has enough to do. She still finds time to serve on the Faculty Council, the Auraria Science Building Project Management Team and as a CCD representative on the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board (FACAB). Miller said she enjoys every minute of her active involvement in the CCD community, which rewarded her with the 2008 Full-Time Faculty of the Year Award.

Miller said she believes that education should not be an exclusive opportunity and experience. All individuals — regardless of anything else — should have an opportunity to pursue an education and strive for excellence.

She has the education and professional experience to be a real resource to CCD students. Miller earned her doctorate in pharmacology from Meharry Medical College, a Historically Black institution in Nashville, Tennessee. Her graduate research focused on the neuropharmacological effects of drugs of abuse. She worked as a post-doctoral fellow in

pharmacology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and then took several years away from her career to raise a family. When she was ready to return to work, Miller started as an adjunct instructor at CCD teaching Introductory Chemistry and Biology classes.

Diana Joy

The nomination form for Diana Joy's 2008 Online Faculty of the Year Award describes the recognition as “long overdue.” Joy is a hard-working advocate and sometimes a lone, courageous voice for adjunct faculty at CCD. She participates in committees for both CCD and the Colorado Community College System in addition to teaching psychology courses for CCD Online. Joy is innovative, caring and dedicated to her students. She has written articles for professional journals and has given guest lectures at other institutions. Joy also started a local chapter of Psi Beta — the national honors society in psychology for community and junior colleges — for CCD students.

Sharron McCormack

When Case Manager Sharron McCormack tells a student she knows exactly what they are going through, she actually does. Sharron first came to CCD in 1996 and “just never left.” Finally after 12 years at CCD — first as a student and work-study, then as a vocational instructor and finally a case manager — Sharron's co-workers named her Technical/Professional Employee of the Year for 2008.

Imane Benjelloun

Associate of Science Degree, 2008
Currently at UC Denver and
native of Casablanca, Morocco

“From the moment I walked through the doors of the CCD, I was very impressed with the diversity. I witnessed different cultures, religions, ages, backgrounds, and the many students from different countries. I realized I was at the right place because I, too, am different. I come from a different country, with my own culture, religion and languages. Yet I share the same interest, which is a desire for knowledge.”

Community College of Denver





rededicate

“I have always enjoyed meeting and working with and assisting all different types of students — prospective, current and past — and helping them through the maze called ‘getting my ducks in a row to begin college,’” Sharron said. “With the help of my peers, I generally have done everything I could to make it an easy path for students to take toward a college education. Students just have to take that first step. I love what I can do as a case manager!”

Michael Johnson, who works at the Denver Transfer Initiative (DTI), was her case manager when Sharron was a student and then her mentor when she became a case manager herself. “He guided me through the many things I had to learn to be a good case manager. Thank you, Michael! I am indebted to you for your patience with me. Look where I ended up!”

Sharron was somewhat surprised and very proud that her peers voted to recognize her with this award.

“CCD has been my working life family for the past 12 years and I have learned so much,” Sharron said. She has helped students fill out their admissions applications, apply for financial aid, loans and scholarships and helped them set their educational goals.

“I have generally done everything I can to make it an easy step for my students to take toward getting a college education, just like my case manager, Michael Johnson did for me as he taught me ‘the trade,’” Sharron said. “I have never been satisfied with taking a back seat and letting someone else handle a problem or question when I have the skills to find a solution myself.”

Sharron earned her Personal Computer Support Specialist Certificate from CCD in 1996. She then completed an Associate of General Studies Degree in 2001 and an Associate of Arts Degree in philosophy and humanities in 2003. In 2006, Sharron graduated from Regis University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in communication.

Gilbert Rodarte

It would be impossible to name everything that Gilbert Rodarte does for the faculty, staff and students at CCD North. Rodarte, who also earned an Associate of Applied Science from CCD, was honored as the 2008 Classified Employee of the Year.

As the maintenance supervisor for CCD North, Rodarte has an enormous job maintaining the facility and grounds. Co-workers say Rodarte goes above and beyond what is required and is always very polite and helpful doing so. He never says “no.”

According to his nomination, Rodarte is a great boss to his crew and he loves the opportunity to train and interact with work-study students. “Gil always has a smile on his face and in his voice.”

Karla Nash

After only 10 months at CCD, Financial Aid Director Karla Nash was still learning names and figuring out how other areas of the college worked. Newbie or not, Nash’s staff nominated her for 2008 Administrator of the Year and she won.

Daniel Gai

Associate of Arts Degree, 2007
Currently at UC Denver and one of many Lost Boys of Sudan who have graduated from CCD

“CCD was really a very, very successful place for me. I am proud that I came to CCD and got my associate degree. Not only did they encourage me to follow my education, but they also encouraged and challenged me to see myself — who I am and who I would be in the future.”



“I was totally shocked,” Nash said about the awards ceremony last spring. “It sounded like my name, but I thought, ‘That can’t be.’ I really felt like it was a big honor.”

In presenting the award, Nash said that Bret Hann, who chairs the Administrative Council, joked that she was still new enough that she hadn’t made enemies. Apparently, Nash has done quite the opposite.

Nash came to CCD from Metro State in July of 2007 at a time when the Enrollment Services area of the college was being divided into two areas — Admissions and Financial Aid. Although the people who help students in both areas cross train, the separation makes sense, Nash said. Enrolling in college and paying for it are really two separate areas of expertise.

Under the new arrangement, the college now has a dedicated call center for financial aid questions. Nash said she wanted to simplify all of the processes to improve the customer experience for students.

In building her team, Nash considers employees’ talents and utilizes their skills in ways that serve students most effectively. She said that students are experiencing shorter wait times and working with people who really know the answers to their questions.

“I try to make sure everyone feels like they have a say in how we do things and that their opinions are valued,” Nash said. “What we’re striving for is to make this a friendlier, happier place.”

redefine
reignite
reconnect



re MARKABLE PROGRAMS

Communications and Theater

The Colorado Community College System renamed the program area formerly called Speech across all 13 of its community colleges, including CCD. Now called Communications, Julie Ireland serves as chair of both that program and the highly successful Theatre program at CCD.

Under Ireland's leadership, CCD sponsored the Regional Persuasive Speech Competition with participants from all of the metro community colleges. CCD Student Zoe Zuker took the second place prize in that competition.

Scared Scriptless — CCD's improvisational comedy troupe — performed to sell-out crowds in the King Center's Eugenia Rawls Theater at the end of fall semester. Ireland teaches the comedy class, directs Scared Scriptless and emcees the show.

CCD Theater students put on the college's first-ever student written play — *The Auraria Project > Political Satire* — during the spring semester, also in the Rawls Theater.

Dental Hygiene

For the fourth year in a row, CCD Dental Hygiene graduates had a 100 percent pass rate on the National Dental Hygiene Board exam. The class of 31 students also had a 94 percent pass rate on the Central Regional Dental Test — the clinical board exam.

Early Childhood Education

Changes in state licensing mandates for childcare providers and positive community relations have led to a 20 percent enrollment growth over the last two years in CCD's Early Childhood Education program. Alicia Biggs, who chairs the program, has worked hard to market its classes to prospective students and the current childcare workers that the new laws affect. Additionally, Biggs has written and received several local and federal grants, including one from the Denver Mayor's Office.

Human Services Program

The Council for Standards in Human Service Education (CSHSE) granted CCD's Human Services program a five-year re-accreditation after a site visit in May. The program has had CSHSE accreditation since 1997.

Pre-Aerospace Engineering Technology

The Access to Collaborative Education in the Sciences (ACES) program — a joint effort of the CCD and Metro State — is gaining momentum with growing enrollment and exciting opportunities for students. The ACES program is facilitated through NASA and the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation.

Jim Moravec, a veteran teacher at North High School, joined the CCD Science faculty during the



Scared Scriptless improv comedy troupe from CCD's Theatre program



spring semester. His Astronomy 102 class was an enormous success. With 23 students — half from the Pre-Collegiate program — Moravec introduced the astronomy and cosmology of deep space utilizing aerospace technology, including optics, radio astronomy, and satellite communications.

Moravec's class was so popular that students frequently stayed for hours after it ended to work on their projects. They interacted with professional astronomers from NASA and around the world. Students worked directly with the observatory in Barcelona, Spain to view a lunar eclipse. For another project, they worked with a New Mexico observatory to run radio scans into space with professional astronomers.

A group of CCD and Metro State students launched a weather balloon containing five satellites that they built. The satellites traveled more than 103,000 feet in the air before beginning their descent back to earth. Students tracked the satellites' landing using GPS and gathered data and photographs.

Moravec, who works for NASA during the summer, even involved his students in his professional research.

Claire Miller, Science program chair at CCD, brought Moravec on board because of his ability to influence students and to create a pipeline for Denver Public Schools to earn college credits while still in high school. Graduates from this program are expected to be in high demand with plentiful job opportunities at aerospace companies in Colorado and throughout the country.

Visual Arts

CCD Art students demonstrate a "sense of self and individual creative approaches," according to Charles Parson, who chairs the program. Parson's students took home a number of prizes — including Best of Show — for projects they submitted to the Colorado Annual Design Awards

Kenzie Sitterud, who graduated from CCD in May 2008, exhibited a full-scale installation at the DOCK Gallery on the Auraria Campus that included sculpture, painting, writing and original music. Sitterud and her fellow CCD Art students exhibited their work at 3240 Design Center in Denver and on campus at the Auraria Library and the Emmanuel Gallery.

Another graduating student, Mario Sanchez, co-authored an article about his experiences in the Denver arts scene in the Italian magazine, *Garage*.

CCD Graphic Design students, under the leadership of Chair John Kjos, did outstanding work for the 2007 Art Directors Club of Denver Student Show, which is juried by independent, prestigious professionals. CCD students won five Best of Category awards, including the prize for Best of Show.

"This is a tremendous achievement for our two-year students competing with the all the Front Range two- and four-year schools," Kjos said. "We had more students win awards than any of them!"

reaccelerate

RECOGNIZING SUCCESS

Center for Career & Technical Education

Faculty who teach for some of the programs in the Center for Career and Technical Education have started using Podcasts to deliver course material to students. Podcasts are audio files that students can download to their personal computers or to their MP3 players. Podcasting offers faculty an opportunity to record lectures, outside speakers or other course materials and provide the audio files for students to use outside of the classroom.

Rick Glesner, who chairs the Engineering Graphics program, has delivered course materials via Podcast. Students in the Workplace Learning Program used Podcasts in their medical terminology course. In both areas, students gave somewhat mixed reviews. While students become accustomed to this course delivery method, faculty are learning new ways to use Podcasts through CCD's Teaching/Learning Center.

Center for Educational Advancement

The developmental education classes and academic services that the Center for Educational Advancement (CEA) provide set CCD apart from the other institutions on the Auraria Campus. Many traditional and non-traditional students come to community colleges because they need extra preparation before they can take college-level courses.

CEA provides developmental mathematics, English, reading and English as a Second Language courses that help students build skills in the areas where they

lack. Last year, CEA saw an 89 percent persistence rate for students who took developmental education classes and an overall success rate of 70 percent.

Through its Learning Success Services area, CEA provides academic support and tutoring to students in developmental education classes, career and technical education programs, and others who need help getting through tough classes.

Responding to students Center for Academic Support & Achievement

The programs and services that the Center for Academic Support and Achievement (CASA) provides CCD students have given the college a national reputation. CASA staff typically work with low-income students who are the first in their families to pursue a college degree. Three programs are part of CASA: First Generation Student Success (FGSS), TRiO Scholars and the Denver Transfer Initiative (DTI).

Case managers in the nationally-renowned FGSS program help students through their first 12 college-level credits. First-generation students often struggle to navigate the college administration process because their family members don't have previous higher education experience. Many of those students who come to CCD need to take developmental classes to build the skills they need to be successful in college level courses. FGSS case managers help students learn the ropes, meet financial aid deadlines, find childcare and remove other barriers to academic success.

"I have no idea where I'll end up. I just enjoy people. I like to work with people, so wherever I end up, I'm sure I'll be happy. I have a lot of gratitude in my heart toward CCD. They helped me grow up."

Theresa Handboy

Associate of General Studies Degree, 2008
Currently at UC Denver and a single mother
of four young men



redefine

The U.S. Department of Education funds CCD's TRiO Scholars program, which serves low-income and first-generation students who have completed their first 12 college credits. TRiO Scholars provides academic assistance to 200 students annually with a participant retention rate that consistently is 70 percent or higher.

The Denver Transfer Initiative is a joint program between CCD and UC Denver that makes articulation between the schools easier for students. Funded through a Hispanic Serving Institution Title V Cooperative Grant, DTI demonstrated tremendous success at the end of its first year with:

- A 92 percent fall-to-spring retention rate with its first cohort of "continuing" students — CCD sophomores slated to transfer to UC Denver for the 2008-09 academic year
- An 81 percent fall-to-spring retention rate among the first cohort of "new" first-time college students
- A 91 percent acceptance rate to UC Denver for the 65 "continuing" students who applied
- Two DTI transferring students received the UC Denver Urban Scholarship
- One received the Tim Fischer Scholarship
- Another earned the UC Denver Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship
- Nine were strong candidates for the Reisher Scholarship

Educational Planning & Advising Center

Advisors in CCD's Educational Planning and Advising Center (EPAC) assisted 17,033 new and continuing students during the 2007-08 academic year. EPAC advisors work with students at the beginning of their educational journeys and help them fulfill their academic goals. EPAC has four full-time advisors who manage to maintain a fine line between the quantitative and the qualitative — providing high quality service to each student, despite the high volume of work.

EPAC advisors also continue to build and grow the Career Connections program, a Web site that provides students with access to employment opportunities, labor market research and job fairs.

Recruitment & Student Outreach

During 2007, recruiters from CCD's Recruitment and Student Outreach (RSO) office contacted 3,128 prospective students in high schools, at community events and college fairs.

CCD recruiters don't consider their work completed until a new student is enrolled and essentially ready to start classes. They go the extra mile for customer satisfaction by walking students over to the next department to ensure students they get help paying tuition, asking questions about financial aid, finding an advisor, or accessing disability services.

During heavy enrollment periods, RSO staff work with Learning Success Services to provide

enough computer terminals for students to sign up for the College Opportunity Fund, apply to CCD or for financial aid, and register for classes online.

"Language and cultural barriers can challenge recruiters," states RSO Director Ari Rosner-Salazar. "I've worked with students from Sudan who come from an agricultural style of living and are filling out an application on a computer for the first time in their lives. We work with adults who — after years of working — are coming to school for the first time. Previously incarcerated felons find our office and get help starting over. And we also meet lots of traditional freshmen who don't have a clue how to get things done independently."



reinvest

In 2007, CCD received \$16,800,197 in outside grants and contracts for fiscal year 2007-2008, 42.4 percent of our total operating budget. Your individual contribution to CCD ensures that our students continue to have extraordinary opportunities for educational success.

To learn more about Community College of Denver, and the CCD Foundation, Inc., go to www.ccd.edu, or call 303.352.3199.

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CCD Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1992. Its mission is to develop partnerships with private and public organizations to secure and invest resources that contribute to the well being of CCD students and the community.

CCD recognizes that administration, faculty and staff reflect the diversity of its students and community and prohibits employment and student discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin and sexual orientation.

CCD is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association, and is an Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Participant.

For more information, contact:

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