

Accreditation Update

Our Comprehensive Self-Evaluation Report will be delivered to PCC this Friday, and submitted to NWCCU next week as part of PCC's Year 7 Accreditation review. The report will also be posted to our Accreditation webpage and shared electronically with the Board. The somewhat arduous development process for this detailed document has highlighted where we fully meet standards, and where to focus our efforts to reach compliance. Our target date to submit the Application to initiate our independent accreditation process with NWCCU is October 30, 2015, with a fallback date of March 30, 2016.

NWCCU Accreditation Workshop: To continue to grow staff understanding of the accreditation process and requirements, a college team will attend the annual NWCCU workshop March 11-13 in Tukwilla, Washington.

NWCCU Evaluation Team Visit: On Friday, April 24, Ms. Connie Capurro the evaluation committee chair will spend the day at OCCC Newport completing the on-site portion of our evaluation. Kathy Searles, Director of Library and Media Services, is serving as our ALO (Accreditation Liaison Officer) and will develop a schedule for the day. The PCC visit by the full evaluation team will be April 27-29th. OCCC will also send a couple of individuals to be on-hand for the PCC visit. This will be a good learning experience for OCCC staff, and will enable us to respond to any further questions that may arise about OCCC.

College News

Veterans:

On January 28th Oregon Employment Department, Lincoln County Board of Commissioners, and American Legion Post 116 hosted the first annual Lincoln County Veteran Stand Down. The purpose of the event was to connect veterans who are homeless or at risk of being homeless to a variety of resources and service providers in the community. The AmeriCorps VISTA and Veteran Student Service Coordinator at OCCC, Julie Anderson, attended the event as a service provider (one of 18). She spoke with veterans about using veterans' educational benefits at OCCC and other OCCC resources. There were 75 veterans in attendance, 32 of which identified as homeless.

Aquarium Science:

This year seven industry professional leaders from around the country participated in the Aquarium Science Program's annual National Visiting Committee Meetings. From February 9 through the 11th the committee visited classes, reviewed course materials, lab spaces, program processes and provided feedback and recommendations for improvement of the Aquarium Science Program. Committee members also delivered mock employment interviews to AQS students. Each student received three different interview opportunities where they received feedback and advice on interview performance and resume development. This year's committee consisted of members from Seattle Aquarium, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, Tacoma, WA, Moody Gardens, Galveston, TX, Steinhart Aquarium, San Francisco, Downtown Aquarium Denver, Seagrest Fish Farms in Florida and OSU research labs.


This year all aquarium science students have the special opportunity to attend the Regional Aquatics Workshop (RAW) to be held at Monterey Bay Aquarium this March. The RAW conference is the premier public aquarium professionals meeting held each year at various locations. This year due to its location being within "driving" distance, students and faculty will be making the trip down to Monterey Bay the week of March 2nd to attend the conference. Each student has been generously sponsored by donations given by leading industry businesses and vendors that have covered the majority of all costs in attending the conference. Students will not only be able to attend dozens of presentations from leaders in the field but will also be able to network with professionals. Students will be presenting at the conference as well as providing posters.

Nursing:

The second year OCCC nursing students travelled to Salem on February 10 to attend the annual "Nurse Lobby Day" sponsored by the Oregon Nurses Association. During Nurse Lobby day nurses and student-nurses from across the state join together to learn and discuss legislative issues that are priorities for the nursing profession. The morning session involved speakers on current legislation such as the Safe Staffing Bill, Blood Drive Safety and School Nurse Staffing ratios. The afternoon included lunch at the State capitol building followed by scheduled meetings in small groups with nurses and their representatives and senators to deliver the concerns of the nurses and to ask for support of our issues during this legislative session. The students described feeling motivated by being a part of the political process and by seeing the potential nurses have when working collectively on shared concerns. The Oregon Coast Community College nursing students were active participants in the event and represented our college proudly.

SBDC:

On Thursday, Feb. 19, the SBDC Director signed a contract with Toby Winn, director of Neighbors for Kids in Depoe Bay. The contract devotes \$13,000 of the SBDC's Community Development Block Grant to Neighbors for Kids, as stipulated in the SBDC's initial grant application. This is the fourth consecutive grant year of this partnership. With the funds, the NFK will be placing students from Lincoln County high schools in businesses as paid interns to learn the ropes of businesses the students choose, based on their own interests and career aspirations. The program also includes classroom instruction on entrepreneurship, social media marketing, branding and more, using OCCC facilities and SBDC counselors and instructors, among others.

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| <p>Yak & Snack with Birgitte:</p>  | <p>Yak & Snacks are open drop-in opportunities to share a snack, and talk informally with the President. We share updates about what is happening at the college, and address any questions. To date, approximately 30 staff have joined in.</p> <p>1/23: Newport 2/9: Newport 2/10: Lincoln City 2/24 Newport, 4 PM rm 49</p> |
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Enrollment Data: Winter Term

While our enrollment is still down (12% reimbursable FTE) compared to this time last year (also true to varying degrees in the rest of Oregon) we are seeing improvement over the precipitous drop in summer and fall enrollments (over 18%). While it is difficult to ascertain exactly what is behind shifts in enrollment, I am confident that the positive work around student success, outreach, and retention is keeping us strong.

- 67% of the FTE decrease is due to declines in both headcount (down 21%) enrolled in Post-secondary Remedial course work AND the change from ALEKS math to lecture which decreased our clock hours (down 46%).
- Other areas of FTE decrease were 16% decrease in Voc Prep, and 12.7% decrease in ESL.
- LDC (Transfer), Voc. Prep, and ABE had minor decreases or minor increases (GED, and reimbursable self-improvement).

President's External Engagement since last Board Meeting

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| Oregon Coast Aquarium Lincoln County School District Oregon Community College Association Oregon State University Marine Studies Initiative Working Group Oregon Coastal Caucus Rep. David Gomberg Meet the Funders: MMT, Spirit Mountain, Oregon Community Foundation | Newport Rotary Economic Development Alliance LC Board Meyer Memorial Trust STEM Hub planning (chair) Wilder Development Love is Love Event OPC Free Community College Workgroup Oregon Presidents Council |
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OCCC in the News

Media Report February 2015

Free community college?

http://www.newportnewstimes.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&story_id=46759&page=86

Oregon's small business advocate to speak Jan. 27

http://www.newportnewstimes.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=86&story_id=46781

Earn your stripes at beekeeping talk

<http://www.oregoncoasttoday.com/oct/learn/20150203/earn-your-stripes-at-beekeeping-talk>

Upcoming disaster class has new twist

http://www.newportnewstimes.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&story_id=46906&page=86

Love Is Love Valentine Party is Sunday

http://www.newportnewstimes.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=91&story_id=46931

NEW OCCC COURSE: Real Estate Pre-License Course

http://www.thenewsguard.com/catches_at_the_beach/article_cc30cc1e-b121-11e4-9619-1f879b548c91.html

OCCC College President to speak at NOW meeting

http://www.thenewsguard.com/news_paid/article_976e2596-b200-11e4-b0f8-3340206a01ed.html

Online Advising Appointments (updates to the college webpage)

<http://oregoncoastcc.org/online-advising-appointments>

Take the pane out of gardening

<http://www.oregoncoasttoday.com/20150217/take-the-pane-out-of-gardening>

SUCCESS ON THE FLY: Intimidation

http://www.newportnewstimes.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=92&story_id=47059

Facebook Fans - 1,659

Do you have items you would like to see featured in the President's Report? Send to Birgitte.ryslinge@occc.cc.or.us