



April 2022

Spreading Wings and Empty Nests

Hello Spartans!

As our graduates prepare to spread their wings and fly on to the next step of their journeys, we prepare to celebrate them at Commencement ceremonies on May 7.



Graduation ceremonies celebrate the hard work of students, families, faculty, and staff in a bittersweet mix of loss and gain. It's my favorite time of the academic year. A bit of my soul soars every time I see our students go out into the world, knowing I had a tiny part in their success. (Check out the article on student honors below! Nearly 50% of these students have received a Foundation scholarship during their time at CNCC!)

As graduates soar away, our freshmen rise to take their place as campus and program leaders. Staff and faculty turn to filling the empty nest with our next group of students starting on or returning to the path to their dreams.

This cycle fills me with hope and joy. It also drives me to continue to build funding for CNCC's future, our students' futures, and the future of families who have not yet even begun to build their nests.

Sue Samaniego, Executive Director of Advancement/Foundation

The CNCC Foundation Board

Each year, the Foundation Board takes a day to strategically plan for how we will help CNCC meet its mission. On April 22, the board determined priorities for the next five years.



Top priority went to building our unrestricted endowment to at least \$500,000. An endowment consists of funds invested for the future. The original or *principal* funds remain untouched, while a portion of the interest on the investment funds current projects and a portion is reinvested to grow the fund.

CNCC's endowment funds totaled \$251,766 at the end of fiscal year 2021. Most of these

funds are restricted to specific scholarship funds, however. The unrestricted fund totaled \$13,626. A variety of strategies will be used to build this fund over the next five years, including the current [brick campaign](#). While larger state schools and private institutions often have endowment funds in the millions of dollars, community colleges, who serve the highest-need students and provide high-cost technical programs, struggle to build even small endowments.

The other three priorities will be helped by the endowment over time. These priorities include student scholarships and emergency assistance funds; program enhancement, expansion, and start-up funds; and upkeep, renovation, or modernization of campus facilities, particularly those on the Rangely campus, many of which have seen very little remodeling since they were built.

CNCC Foundation Board members pictured above are (top row L to R): Ron Granger (vice chair), Sam Tolley (treasurer), Diana Sizemore (secretary), Anthony Mazzola and (bottom row L to R): Angela Johnson, Ann Brady (chair), Karol Bullen, and Jo Ann Baxter. Not pictured: Rachel Gates and Stephen Swymer.

The Board welcomes those interested in becoming involved as a Board member, committee member, or volunteer to send a letter of interest or request for more information to Board Chair Ann Brady at ambrady100@yahoo.com or Executive Director Sue Samaniego at sue.samaniego@cncc.edu or 970.675.3216.

Over 250 Student Awards Presented



Arlene Harp receives the Outstanding Scholar - Non-Traditional Student award on the Rangely Campus from Rangely Junior College District Board member Bart Nielsen.



Chris Apodaca (center) receives the Craig campus Presidential Outback award from Moffat County Affiliated Junior College District Board member Jennifer Holloway (left) and CNCC

Outstanding scholar awards are awarded to students with a 3.0 or higher grade point average who have demonstrated outstanding scholastic performance, leadership qualities, service to the college/community, and participation in student activities.

President Dr. Lisa Jones (right). The Presidential Outback Award is awarded to a student who has demonstrated outstanding progress and effort in overcoming difficulties, excelled in abilities, and been an inspiration to others.

Over 260 awards were presented to CNCC students during award ceremonies held on April 19 and 21. Awards included, among others, outstanding program-specific scholars, outstanding sophomore and freshman, scholar athletes, and the Who's Who Among CNCC students.

Outstanding scholars by program are chosen by faculty in their areas of study for scholarship and scholastic ability, demonstrating outstanding qualities in leadership, community or college service, collegiate or professional organization participation, and working well with others.

Scholar athletes are those who have a 3.0 or higher GPA who have been chosen by coaching staff for outstanding athletic performance, leadership and scholastic achievement.

Who's Who awards go to students with 30 or more CNCC credit hours with a 3.0 or better GPA who have shown high scholarship, participation or leadership in extracurricular activities, citizenship/service, and potential for future achievement.

Special recognition was given to Kellen L Conway, Anne Majewski, Nathan D Roos, Sadie Shake, Arlene Harp, Kayla Rauschert, Claudia Schuurmans, Jada Braggs, Heather Curtis, Celine Guilmineau, Camilla Kennedy, Katie Martinez, Diana Mendoza, Kelly Orr, and Brandi Sherman for having 30 or more CNCC credits with a cumulative 4.0 GPA (All A's).

"What I can give won't matter"



Spartans Succeed!
Monthly Giving Program

Every year, I hear from alumni and CNCC friends that they would donate to the college, but that they aren't rich, so they really can't. It typically ends with, "What I can give won't matter," or another version of the same idea. I am here to tell you that it can matter.

Giving nothing because you can't give a lot isn't the solution. Many of the scholarships the Foundation is able to give each year require matching funds (i.e. Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) scholarships and Pinnacol Workforce Development

Scholarships). These types of programs can be difficult to access each year because we struggle to raise the match (approximately \$40,000/year). (Matching funds must also be used for these specific scholarships so other types of donations do not count.)

Each person who joins the [**Spartans Succeed! monthly giving program**](#) and chooses to give to scholarships doubles their impact through these programs! A gift of \$25 per month (\$300/year) funds \$600 worth of a scholarship once it is doubled! That can make a *huge difference* to a student

struggling to pay for their educational dreams. What you can give *will* matter! A small monthly gift can buy a dream!

Join the giving group at:

<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/SpartansSucceedMonthlyGiving>

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