



January 2021

## Welcoming in the new year

### Hello Spartans!

I'm not sure of another year as universally hated as 2020 turned out to be. Although it was truly just a turn of a page, I think most of us were glad to see 2020 end.

There is something so encouraging and hopeful about a new year. A clean start.



Spring semester offered a clean start on January 11. Though not as simply as in the good old, pre-COVID days, classes got rolling and students began their next step toward meeting their educational goals. The ice tower once again hosted students learning to scale its heights.

Athletic teams began to gear up for play this spring; most teams playing in completely different seasons from their norm. (Keep up with the Spartans via live stream in the Fan Zone on our athletics website: <https://athletics.cncc.edu/> . Up-to-date schedules for all athletic teams are also available there.)

Wishing you a clean start in 2021 as well!

Stay #SpartanStrong! *Sue Samaniego, CNCC Foundation Director*

## CNCC Employment Opportunities

Looking for an exciting change of pace? Keep an eye on CNCC employment opportunities at: <https://cncc.edu/home/employment-opportunities> . We currently have Aviation Maintenance Manager, Dental Hygiene Program Faculty -

## Alumni Highlights:



Equine Science alum Emily.



Alum Kelsey talks about the Cosmetology program.

Like and subscribe to CNCC's YouTube page to see more great videos of our alumni, students, and programs. [Link](#)  
Want to be highlighted in an alumni video? We would love to share your story! Contact Sue Samaniego at [sue.samaniego@cncc.edu](mailto:sue.samaniego@cncc.edu) for more information.

## Welcome Dr. Rodney Alexander, Director of the Cybersecurity Program at CNCC



# Open Educational Resource efforts save CNCC students thousands of dollars

CNCC joined several institutions of higher education in Colorado this year in working to increase access, equity, and affordability for college students through expanding the use of open educational resources (OER) through the Zero Textbook Cost Challenge. Both CNCC and Nicholas Swails, Instructor of History and Humanities, received nominations for Governor Jared Polis' Zero Textbook Cost Awards for 2020. The initiative saved CNCC students over \$37,000 in Fall 2020 and nearly \$29,000 in Spring 2021. Total student savings for the 2020-2021 academic year were \$65,850.35.



## CNCC Traditions

Alumni, do you remember special activities and/or traditions from your time at CNCC? Help us bring back some of these fun activities! Email [sue.samaniego@cncc.edu](mailto:sue.samaniego@cncc.edu) or [reuben.talbot@cncc.edu](mailto:reuben.talbot@cncc.edu) or watch for opportunities to share these moments on Facebook over the next few months! We'd love to hear your stories!

## CMC/CNCC partnership to dramatically expand access to educational opportunities in Western Colorado

- "The central mountains and far northwest region of Colorado are incredibly beautiful and attract visitors from across the globe," stated Dr. Carrie Besnette Hauser, President & CEO of Colorado Mountain College. "These same communities are also particularly susceptible to economic downturns and natural disasters such as the devastating wildfires of this past summer," she added. "With funding from RISE, CMC is pleased to aid in the region's economic recovery by partnering with Colorado Northwestern Community College, 17 school districts and 54 rural high schools to restore concurrent enrollment programs toppled by the pandemic, build the state's most extensive network of technology-enabled classrooms, and dramatically expand access to college courses for students in western Colorado." The partnership received \$2,957,466 to rebuild, dramatically grow, and sustainably scale concurrent enrollment opportunities for high schools and local institutions of higher education in rural communities.

From *Western Slope Now*

[Read the full article](#)

## Foundation Dinner? A Chair Affair?

[View Upcoming Events Here](#)

## Giving through beneficiary designation



### Quick and Easy

If you would like to include a gift for CNCC in your estate plans and would prefer a simple option, a Beneficiary Designation might be the answer.

People choose beneficiaries for their IRAs, life insurance policies, and company retirement plans. If you like, you could also name CNCC as one of your primary beneficiaries—in whatever percentage makes sense for you.

The process is simple. Request a *Beneficiary Change* form from your IRA custodian, life insurance provider or HR Department—often, it's available online. Indicate the percentage of assets for your gifts to CNCC and others, return the form, and your gifts will be in place. It's that easy.

And if you do choose to remember CNCC in this way, please let us know. We would love to include you as a member of the **CNCC Heritage Society**. For more information, please contact Sue Samaniego, CNCC Foundation Director at [sue.samaniego@cncc.edu](mailto:sue.samaniego@cncc.edu) or 970.675.3216.

There is never any expectation or obligation to complete a gift.

**New CNCC Heritage Society Member this month: Carl W. Mattson ('72).**

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