Happy New Year! As we close one year and enter a new, there are many things to reflect on over the last year. And many reasons to be grateful. First and foremost, we are thankful for our students and our community. We are very proud of our students, their hard work, and their representation of us with our employers. We were able to recognize their hard work recently at not one, but two, graduations. Our fall graduation ceremony for our allied health students took place on December 12 at the Phoenix Convention Center. It was a wonderful ceremony for over 250 graduates and their guest. As always, the valedictorians gave terrific speeches; reminding us of their perseverance and thanking friends and family for supporting them. Congrats to all of the grads!

December 18 was a significant milestone for Arizona College. Our first nursing graduates received their bachelor degrees and were pinned (a traditional ceremony for nursing students)! This is an incredible accomplishment for students and faculty alike, and was nearly five years in the making for Arizona College. It was a beautiful event for the graduates, and we’re very excited for them. Starting a program like nursing is quite an undertaking, and I’m very appreciative of the hard work of our Dean, Dr. Rose Saunders, and all of the nursing faculty. Congratulations to the nursing students, our faculty, and everyone involved in getting this started!

I am thankful for the generosity of our students, faculty, and staff. For Thanksgiving, employees from our Glendale and Mesa campuses provided several students and their families who were nominated by our faculty, our staff, and our students with all the food for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. This Glendale campus also held our second annual “1,000 Can Drive.” We surpassed our goal and were able to collect a total of 1,102 cans to donate to the St. Mary’s Food Bank. In December, students were given the opportunity to request needed or wanted items for their Holiday celebration. Our Giving Tree event is always very touching as the requests can vary quite significantly, and we are humbled by the opportunity to help. We made these desires known anonymously to other students and employees who donated the requested items. On behalf of the families who were the recipients of these gifts, I’d like to thank each and every person who helped provide to those in need. I appreciate you participating in these traditions.

In closing, I’d like to send a special thanks to our faculty and staff. I appreciate your dedication to our students, their learning, and our College. We are only as good as our people, and I am proud to work at Arizona College because of you. Thanks for a wonderful 2015 and I look forward to an even better 2016!

Best wishes,

NICK MANSOUR
President
ARIZONA COLLEGE STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY MADE A SMART DECISION.

Onetonline.org has classified Medical Assistants, Dental Assistants, Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, Pharmacy Technicians and Massage Therapists as “Bright Outlook” occupations. Bright Outlook occupations are defined as occupations that are expected to grow rapidly in the next several years, will have large numbers of job openings, or are new and emerging occupations.

Employment of all five allied health programs Arizona College offers training in are projected to grow between 20-29 percent (depending on program) from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. This is for several reasons.

The growth of the aging baby-boom population will continue to spur demand for preventive medical and dental services. The demand for health services is expected to increase as the population ages as well. An aging population will need more medical tests, treatments, and procedures. This will mean more claims for reimbursement from insurance companies leading to an increasing need for Health Information Technicians. As their practices expand, physicians and dentist will hire more assistants to perform routine administrative and clinical duties, allowing the physicians and dentists to see more patients.

Older people also use more prescription medicines than younger people. Additionally, higher rates of chronic diseases such as diabetes among all age groups will lead to an increased demand for prescription medications. Advances in pharmaceutical research will allow for more prescription medications to be used to fight diseases causing a need for additional Pharmacy Technicians.

As an increasing number of states adopt licensing requirements and standards for therapists, the practice of massage is likely to be respected and accepted by more people as a way to treat pain and to improve overall wellness. Similarly, as more healthcare providers understand the benefits of massage, demand will increase as these services become part of treatment plans, thus an increased need for Massage Therapists will exist.


AMBER BREWER
Director of Admissions – Glendale Campus

NEWS FROM THE NURSING DEPARTMENT

Eight students from the nursing department in Mesa recently participated in a mock disaster drill sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and the Clark County, Nevada Public Health Department. Students were representing the Student Nurse Association of Arizona College when they volunteered to drive to Las Vegas for this event. The drill exposed students to what they might experience in a live disaster when hundreds of people are endangered by a contaminant and must be assessed, triaged and treated. The Arizona College nursing students had the opportunity to share their experience with students enrolled in the community health nursing class at Arizona State University when they were invited as guest speakers. They were able to communicate both the positive and negative aspects of the drill and discuss opportunities for improvement for future drills. Their presentation included slides that illustrated the entire experience. This experience provided students the opportunity to participate as members of a large team and also gave them experience in doing a professional presentation in front of a large group of nursing students and faculty. Way to go Arizona College nurses!

DR. ROSE SAUNDERS
Dean of Nursing
Arizona College happily welcomes Mrs. Josie Fowler who has joined our team as the new Human Resource and Payroll Coordinator.

Mrs. Fowler’s career in HR and payroll started 10 years ago when she accepted a position with a hotel management company. Josie helped implement the processes and systems needed to develop the HR and Payroll department for the company. Taking on the challenge was the beginning of her career in Human Resources and has enjoyed the role since.

In 2008 she completed a certificate in HR Management through Cornell University and in 2009 attended Ozarks Technical Community College as a part time student in their Culinary Arts program. Her passion for cooking had always been the forefront of what she wanted to do in life but instead Josie decided to move forward with her career path in HR by attending Park University in the fall of 2013, working towards her Bachelor of Science in Management/Human Resources.

Josie enjoys cooking and trying new recipes. She also played volleyball for the Filipino Association team and coached little league volleyball as well. Josie enjoys road trips, hiking, camping and when she can find time she loves to catch up on her Netflix shows.

If Josie could live anywhere in the world, she would live in Singapore. She traveled there as a child with her family and fell in love with the city.

Please help us welcome Mrs. Fowler to the Arizona College Family.

ARIZONA COLLEGE – VETERAN STEERING COMMITTEE

It’s a busy time for our Veteran Steering Committee and volunteer staff and students.

We are always so excited for this time of year. Our passion is to give back to our Veterans and the community and much like last year, we marched again in the East Valley Veteran’s Day parade. Together we represented Arizona College, cheered our veteran’s and handing out candy to the kids lining the street of Mesa, Arizona.

Another highlight of the season is putting together care packages for our Veterans. After a very successful bake sale that raised over $175, plus campus donations, we were able to donate over 75 care packages for our local Homeless Veterans! All packages were donated to the MANA House located here in Phoenix. This facility is responsible for housing homeless veterans transitioning back into normal/social life. Overall this was a huge success and surely made a big difference in the lives of those who need it the most.

Coming up in February is the big Veteran’s Stand Down event. This event is an alliance of community-based organizations where government, private sector, and non-profits come together to help our homeless and at-risk military veterans, connecting them with services ranging from: VA HealthCare, Mental Health Services, Clothing, Meals, Emergency Shelter, Transitional and Permanent Housing, ID/ Drivers License’s, Court Services and Legal Aide, Showers and Haircuts and myriad other services and resources.

The Arizona College Veteran Steering Committee will be present to not only represent the College but to give back as well.

Arizona College as a whole is very proud to be a part of a group so dedicated to helping others. A BIG thanks to all our students and faculty and friends that help make our events so successful.

JAN LEMAU
Agency Liaison
GOOD LUCK EXTERNS!

*Please note: Due to limited space, the students below are only a sample of students that have been placed on externship.

VERONICA CORTEZ
Medical Assisting

RISHAV BASYAL
Dental Assisting

MARIAH SHERLOCK
Medical Assistant

KRISTEN GABER
Dental Assisting

AARON PUGH
Medical Assistant

SARAH SZPAK
Pharmacy Technician

SANDRA NAVA
Pharmacy Technician

PAOLA PEREZ
Health Information Specialist

TRI NGUYEN
Health Information Technician
CONGRATULATIONS PLACED GRADS!

*Please note: Due to limited space, the graduates listed below are only a sample of graduates that have been placed in their related field for employment and does not include every placed graduate.

CYNTHIA ORTIZ
Dental Assisting – Pacific Dental Services

JUANITA BAUTISTA
Pharmacy Technician – Cigna

JOSE PINA
Dental Assisting – Katsur Dental

PAULA LEADBETTER
Massage Therapy – Precision Massage

ERIC COUSINS
Medical Assistant – Banner Occupational Health

JACOB JACKSON
Medical Assisting – West Valley ENT

REBECCA KOMARA
Pharmacy Technician – Expert Global Services

JULIE KAPLAN
Health Information Specialist – West Valley Urgent Care

GABRIELA MEDINA
Medical Assisting – Estrella Pediatrics

AMANDA OROZCO
Health Information Specialist – Pinnacle Care Internal Medicine

JENNIFER GILMER
Health Information Technician – Weight Loss Institute

MEGAN NIETO
Massage Therapy – Elements Massage
SCHOOL OF NURSING NEWS

The Las Vegas Campus is excited to be serving the Nevada community with our Bachelors of Science of Nursing program. We look forward to the growth of our Campus. Our team has already helped 16 students on their journey of becoming Arizona College graduates. As the Las Vegas community has been very open to Arizona College and our students are already spreading the news about our new location. When you get a chance to visit Las Vegas, please stop by our campus and say HI!

MELISSA MACHUCA
Director of Admissions – Las Vegas Campus

WE ROCKED THE KNOWLEDGE BOWL!

On November 7, 2015 the Glendale Medical Assistant students competed in the “2015 Atwood Knowledge Bowl” hosted by the AAMA (American Association of Medical Assistants) where they competed against Carrington College, The Phoenix Job Corps, and licensed Medical Assistants working in the field. This competition was a test to see who knew their Medical Terminology, Anatomy and Physiology, medications/dosages and all things Medical Assisting. Can you guess who took FIRST place?......That's right, ARIZONA COLLEGE!!! The students who competed were Briana Covell, Sara Brown, Asra Shahtaj, Amanda Lynch, Taneca Hughes, and Jessica Aranda. An additional Thank You to Deborah Stary, Irma De La Rosa for being there to cheer them on! We were super proud of our girls! You rocked it!

MONICA KATSANES
Assistant MA Program Director – Glendale Campus

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MONICA KATSANES
Assistant MA Program Director – Glendale Campus

SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYER / EXTERNSHIP SITE: PEDIATRIX

Pediatrix has been a strong partner with Arizona College for the past three and a half years. They are accepting Medical Assistant students regularly to train in their pediatric, multi-physician office. They have hired over 20 of our graduates. Once our graduates get hired on, they never want to leave. If you walk in their office, you will currently see over a dozen AZ College grads in their hallways and assisting their doctors. Thank you Pediatrix for giving back to the health care community through great training!

BECCA BEUTLER
Career Services Representative – Glendale Campus

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/1/16    New Year’s Day (No Classes)
1/15/16   Externship Orientation
1/18/16   Martin Luther King’s Day (No Classes)
1/21/16   New Student Orientation
1/25/16   New Start, Welcome Students
2/15/16   President’s Day (No Classes)
2/19/16   Externship Orientation
2/25/16   New Student Orientation
2/29/16   New Start, Welcome Students
3/25/16   Externship Orientation
3/31/16   New Student Orientation
4/4/16    New Start, Welcome Students
4/29/16   Externship Orientation

“I want to become a nurse because I have always wanted to work in the health field. My reasons for wanting to work in the health field are because I’ve always looked up to those people who can say they’ve cured someone or helped care for someone. Throughout my time here the school has been in constant contact with me making sure that my classes are going as smoothly as possible and that I stay focused. This has shown me that Arizona College is not just a school, it’s a community.”

– ANTHONY THOMAS (the first Arizona College School of Nursing Las Vegas student)
PHOTO GALLERY

Our Thanksgiving baskets benefiting AZ College students.

Supporting at the Knowledge Bowl.

Toy Drive for Boys and Girls Club.

Walkers from the Veterans Parade.

We love our AZC Staff!

Our new Las Vegas Campus.

Las Vegas Campus first orientation.

Career and Student Services prepping for Popcorn Day.
MESA BOARD OF ADVISORS

Bonnie Bell, LMT
Massage Therapy Program

Ana Estrada
Graduate HIS Program
Health Information Specialist/Technology Programs

Nick Ruiz, CPhT
Civic Center Pharmacy
Pharmacy Technician Program

Chi Tran, Pharm. D
Walgreens
Pharmacy Technician Program

Dr. Anthony Miaoulis, D.D.S.
Dental Assisting Program

Martin Giacalone, LMT
Massage Therapy Program

Ben Levine, CPhT
Walgreens
Pharmacy Technician Program

Marie Miller
Instructor Carrington College
Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy Programs

Brenda Hargrave
Instructor Phoenix College
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Danika Orcilla
Graduate DA Program
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Amanda Melius
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Jennifer Dempsey
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Andrea Ford
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Dental Assisting Program

Jamica Cunningham
Lifeline Internal Medicine
Health Information Specialist/Technology Programs

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Medical Assistant
Happy Kids
Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy Programs

Deanna Fulton
Medical Assistant
East Valley Family Medical
Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy Programs

Nancy Walterscheid, LMT
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Aprilann Woolworth
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Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy Programs

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Chief Operations Officer
Potter’s House Apothecary
Pharmacy Technician Program

Vicki Principe, CPhT
Banner Thunderbird
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Malerie Kline
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Clinic Coordinator Office Manager
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Dr. Ray Rhodes, MD
SottoPelle
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Jan Simon
Revenue Cycle Manager
Thunderbird Internal Medicine
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Maricopa Skills Center
Massage Therapy Program

Kimberly Telena
Billing/Collections
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Zachary Wells
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