The President’s Corner

I hope you are enjoying your summer and staying cool!

Arizona College had a busy spring. Perhaps the most momentous news is that we have started students in our nursing program. Several started pre-requisite classes in March and our first group of students taking upper division, “core” nursing courses started in early May. This is very exciting for them as they pursue their dream.

It’s also very exciting for us, and is the culmination of a process that began over two years ago. Our mission is to provide the opportunity for our students to better their lives through preparing them for rewarding careers. There are few careers with better prospects that nursing. If you know someone interested in nursing, please send her or him our way.

It takes teamwork to launch a program like nursing, and a lot of people have contributed to getting us this far. In particular, I’d like to thank Rose Saunders, Gerry Gillespie, Tracy Chesney, Paula Scherer, Mary Killeen, Karen Saewert, Jennifer Brown, and Judi Crume. Also, we are very thankful to Pamela Randolph, Rhonda Doolen, and Debra McGinty at the Arizona Board of Nursing for their guidance through the process. Now, the real work begins!

In addition, we’ve basically finished remodeling the Glendale campus. Over the last few months, we redesigned the student resource center and front lobby, added a terrific mural at the entrance to our campus, and replaced the furniture (tables and chairs) in the classrooms. While there are still a few minor changes and updates we’ll be making, we are substantially done. I appreciate the patience of our students, faculty and staff. I also want to acknowledge the leadership of Greg O’Coyne, Cheryl Kindred, and Amber Brewer in guiding us through this.

As a reminder, our next graduation is Saturday, August 16th at 11 am at the Phoenix Convention Center. I look forward to celebrating with our graduates, their families, and their loved ones. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

NICK MANSOUR
President

Nick Mansour, President of Arizona College receives an official plaque in honor of being a Veteran Supportive Campus.
Arizona College is a Veteran Supportive Campus

On May 6, 2014 Ted Vogt, Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, presented Arizona College with an honorary plaque commemorating Arizona College becoming certified as a Military Supportive Campus.

The purpose behind this certification is to ensure institutions understand the needs of their military affiliated students and are continually responsive to those needs. Becoming certified was nearly a yearlong process that involved conducting surveys, forming Veteran Steering Committees, conducting staff and faculty training, developing resource centers and an on-site evaluation by the Arizona Department of Veteran’s Services.

Arizona currently has 10 Veteran supportive campuses, which include Arizona’s 3 state universities and 2 of Maricopa County’s community colleges. Currently, Arizona College is the only healthcare focused proprietary college with this certification.

The certification also makes the college a partner with The Arizona Coalition for Military Families (ACMF), which gives us direct access to a wealth of resources for our Veteran Students.

Spotlight on a VETERAN Graduate: John Miller

Mr. John Miller, originally from Traverse City, MI, graduated from Arizona College’s Pharmacy Technician Program in November 2013. Mr. Miller’s father and uncle served in Vietnam, and his grandfather served in World War II. Unfortunately, many of his family members gave their lives serving our country. While visiting his uncle in Norfolk, VA, they toured an aircraft and Mr. Miller was very impressed with the high level of respect that his uncle received and at that point, felt the calling to follow his families legacy by serving his country.

During his sophomore year in high school, Mr. Miller joined the Michigan National Guard, then in the summer of 1989, experienced 9 weeks of basic training at Fort Knox, KY. In 1990, he was part of the Advanced Individual Training preparing to be a “19 Echo” aka M60 Crewmen tanker.

In 1994, his unit transitioned to M1 Class tanks and then in 1996, he was transitioned to active army duty and stationed in Fort Still, OK. In August, 1999 Mr. Miller was stationed in South Korea for 13 months and then was stationed back to Fort Still, OK where he stayed until March 2002, at which time he left the military.

Mr. Miller moved to Arizona in June of 2013, and has lived here ever since. In December 2005, he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Science from Collins College. Mr. Miller recognized that he had an interest in Pharmacy while working for Express Scripts and decided that he wanted to obtain his Pharmacy Technician Certification.

Mr. Miller met with Arizona College due to the college’s affiliation with the Veteran Affairs System. While attending Arizona College, he believes he received a top notch education and recognizes Mr. Kramer for his knowledge of the Pharmacy field. Mr. Miller also enjoyed meeting with other Veterans while on campus, as well as the interaction with other students.

Mr. Miller completed his externship with Banner Gateway in Gilbert, and was hired! His long term professional goal is to work for the VA and serve other Veterans.

In his spare time, Mr. Miller enjoys reading, bowling and spending time with his friends. His advise for other students would be to be flexible, willing to learn and recognize that some things are different in the field vs. the classroom.

His advise to fellow Veterans is to use the discipline that was learned in the military in class, as well as generally in life.

His advise to Arizona College staff and fellow Arizona College students is to take the time to get to know Veterans and the sacrifices they have made. Don’t take Veterans for granted and take time out of your day to thank a Veteran, because it means a lot to them.

MICHELLE LAMOUREUX
Career Services Coordinator
Welcome Arizona College Future Nurses!

Make a difference...become a Nurse!

Monday, May 5th, 2014 was a very important day for Arizona College; our first group of Nursing students started classes!

The week prior, the students had 3 days of orientation for the Nursing program. On Tuesday, May 6th the Nursing students and faculty celebrated National Nurses Day with a cake. What a great week!

For more information about Arizona College’s Bachelors of Science in Nursing program, visit: www.arizonacollege.edu/nursing/

In their own words...

““My experiences at Arizona College were life changing. I learned professionalism and how to deal with real life situations that I will face in the field. I learned how important my education is to me and that the sky is the limit in my new medical career.

I loved going to school and seeing how much I could accomplish. I have been using the skills I learned at Arizona College on a daily basis at my new job. I loved all of my instructors at Arizona College. My favorite classes were anything hands-on, such as venipuncture. Thank you Arizona College!”

CHELSIE BAIN
Medical Assisting Graduate

“There are no words to explain my experience at Arizona College. It was such a life changing experience and I would do it over again a million times! The instructors are absolutely amazing and care about each student’s success.

I absolutely love the new career I have chosen for myself. Arizona College will always be a second home to me; they are an A+ school. Thank you to everyone there for all of your help.”

JUSTICE GONZALEZ
Dental Assisting Graduate


The walk was sponsored by the American Heart Association and included a 3 mile Heart Walk & a 1 mile Stroke Walk. The money raised made a significant impact on the fight against our nation’s number 1 and number 4 killers!

Both the Glendale & Mesa campus had a great time competing to raise the most in donations. We had fundraisers such as “InspiRED Giving Day” on March 12. Any student or staff member was able to wear jeans and a red shirt, when they made a donation toward the Heart Walk. We also raised money by selling “hearts” at the front desk. With a donation, you could buy a heart, write your name on it, and hang it around the front desk to show your support.

Arizona College started off with a goal to recruit 17 walkers & raise a minimum of $3400. We are proud to say that we surpassed our goal of $3400 and we recruited 61 walkers!! We raised $3652 for the fight against cardiovascular disease and stroke. Our participation helped make it possible for the American Heart Association to exceed their fundraising goal of $1.2 million by over $20,000!

It was determined that the Mesa campus beat out the Glendale campus with the most donations, therefore, the entire Mesa campus won a pizza party!! Also, each person who raised over $100 in donations got 2 free tickets to an Arizona Diamondbacks game.

We had a great time at the Heart Walk and worked together with our community to build a healthier future!
*Please note: Due to limited space, the students listed above are only a sample of students that have been placed on externship.
Congratulations Placed Graduates!

RACHEL CHRISTIAN
Massage Therapy
Massage Envy

MAIA NACHIE
Health Information Technology
AFC Chiropractic

MARIELA LOPEZ
Medical Assisting
Central Family Medicine

LEANN CAPP
Medical Assisting
Abrazo Medical Group

SHANNON COLLINS
Health Information Technology
ReqRoute Inc.

LUZ VILLALOBOS
Dental Assisting
Western Dental

MAIA NACHIE
Health Information Technology
AFC Chiropractic

CLAUDIA GARCIA MARTINEZ
Pharmacy Technician
Banner Estrella Medical Center

JORDAN SELETSTEWA
Massage Therapy
Haggard Chiropractic

EMILY WIGGINS
Pharmacy Technician
AllerVision

BRADI WESTON
Medical Assisting
Alamogordo Family Health

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

Ms. Paula Villela, who is new to the Mesa Campus, is practicing new ways to keep students engaged in Biology! After attending an in-service held at the Glendale campus, Ms. Villela decided to use one of the great ideas we received during the in-service. She brought in Play-Doh for her students, broke the students up into small groups, and assigned each group a part of the digestive system. Students then had to mold their assigned part and explain it.

The students had a blast and they also showed just how creative they really are! Their art work was excellent! Not only did they have a lot of fun with this project, but they also learned quite a bit about the anatomy of the digestive system. Our Mesa Medical Assistants are truly talented and they really know their BIO!

MARY REED
Assistant Financial Aid Director

It’s that time of year again!

Every year on July 1st the Department of Education begins a new financial aid award year. The 2014-2015 FAFSA became available in January and collects income information from the 2013 federal tax returns to determine a student’s eligibility.

One of the best features of completing a FAFSA online, is the ability to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, which links to the IRS website and directly imports your tax information into your FAFSA. Utilizing this tool means you won’t have to provide the Financial Aid Office with your tax return and/or tax transcripts.

While the IRS tool remained the same from last year, there have been other changes to the 2014-2015 FAFSA. For the first time ever, the Department of Education will collect income and other information from a dependent student’s legal parents regardless of the parents’ marital status or gender, if those parents live together.

A new option for dependent applicants will allow them to describe their parent’s marital status as “unmarried and both parents living together.” Additionally, where appropriate, the new FAFSA form will also use terms like “Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent)” and “Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent)” instead of gender-specific terms like “mother” and “father.” Gender-specific terms have failed to capture income and other important information from one parent when a student’s parents are in a same-sex marriage under state law but not federally recognized.

These changes will not impact the majority of federal student aid applicants, but will allow the Department of Education to more precisely calculate federal student aid eligibility based on a student’s whole family.

If you have not completed your 2014-2015 FAFSA, please do so by visiting their website at: www.fafsa.ed.gov or set an appointment with the Financial Aid Office today!

MARY REED
Assistant Financial Aid Director

Stacy Bush
Medical Assisting Program Director

GOT YOGA?

MARIA ROMERO
Medical Assisting Instructor

Medical Assisting students were studying the different options of alternative medicine in their Emerging Healthcare Technologies class; one of them being the practice of yoga. Some of the students had never experienced yoga before; so a short yoga video was followed. It was a great feeling and students really loved their yoga practice. It was a fun, innovative way of teaching!

Ms. Paula Villela, who is new to the Mesa Campus, is practicing new ways to keep students engaged in Biology! After attending an in-service held at the Glendale campus, Ms. Villela decided to use one of the great ideas we received during the in-service.

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STACY BUSH
Medical Assisting Program Director
Calendar of Events

6/20-Externship Orientation
6/26-Orientation-Welcome New Students!
6/30-New Session Starts
6/2014-National Migraine and Headache Awareness Month
7/4-College closed-Happy 4th of July!
7/13-19-Every “Body” Deserves a Massage Week!
7/25-Externship Orientation
7/31-Orientation-Welcome New Students!
8/2014-National Immunization Awareness Month
8/4-New Session Starts
8/16-Graduation Ceremony 11am at the Phoenix Convention Center (student please arrive by 10am)
8/29-Externship Orientation
9/2014-National Cholesterol Education Awareness Month
9/1-College closed-Happy Labor Day!
9/4-Orientation-Welcome New Students!
9/8-New Session Starts
**Board of Advisors**

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<th>Abbas Khayami, D.C.</th>
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<th>Mary Kellar</th>
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