The President’s Corner

I hope the first three months have been a good start to 2014 for you. Since the beginning of the year, there’s been a significant milestone for our nursing program (see below) and we were honored to host two U.S. House of Representatives Congressional Members at our campuses.

Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick visited our Mesa campus on January 6th. She took a tour of the campus and got a demonstration of our nursing simulation capabilities. Congresswoman Kirkpatrick also met with a group of students, including several veterans. She is a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and had several questions for our students about veterans’ benefits, including educational benefits.

We appreciate her visiting the Mesa campus and learning more about our students and our school.

On February 18th, 2014, Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema also visited our Mesa campus that is located in her District. As an adjunct instructor at Arizona State and a former social worker, she understands the value of education and the importance of schools like ours. Congresswoman Sinema also spent time with several students and got to hear from them about their backgrounds, why they enrolled in school, and why they chose Arizona College. Afterwards, over lunch, Congresswoman Sinema led an engaging discussion about education policy and other policy issues. We are grateful that she was able to spend time at our campus as well.

We are reaching out to other elected officials to visit our campuses in the near future. Our Glendale campus is in Congressman Trent Franks’ District and we are hoping to get him back to that campus soon.

Finally, the Arizona Board of Nursing recently approved our nursing program to offer pre-requisite nursing courses through in partnership with another university. So, if you know someone interested in getting a bachelors degree in nursing or someone on the waiting to take nursing pre-requisite courses someplace else, please send them our way!

Kind regards,

Nick Mansour
President
The Massage Therapy Program at Arizona College is embarking on a new endeavor. We will be seeking community partners to provide complimentary chair massage as a service for employees, educators, students, customers and more. Our first partnership is with the Maricopa StandDown to help raise awareness for homeless veterans at the Arizona Veteran’s Coliseum.

We will be looking for other community partnerships to provide our student’s the opportunity to share the benefits that go along with massage therapy.

As stated in an article on the American Massage Therapy Association’s (AMTA) website; John Hasmonek can relate. Hasmonek is a certified public accountant and partner at Ronald J. Borden & Company, a Chicago-based accounting firm that offers employees monthly on-site massage therapy. The company began offering the benefit about a decade ago in response to extremely long work hours during certain parts of the year, especially tax time.

“Our people get tired,” explains Hasmonek. “So, we decided to offer them a massage in the office once a month in order to give them a little break to see if it would increase their energy levels. And it has. It has increased their morale even more than we anticipated.”

“People really look forward to that monthly massage.” Debbie Jordan, an administrative assistant at the firm, speaks highly of the program. “We brag about it,” she says. “I’ll go to the health club, and I’ll tell people that the massage people are coming Monday. They can’t believe it. They’re very jealous. They say ‘that’s a nice perk you have from your employer.”

If you know of businesses or organizations that would like to become part of this new opportunity, please direct them to Stacey Munoz at 602-759-2238 or smunoz@arizonacollege.edu.

March 3-9, 2014 is Dental Assistant’s Recognition Week!

“Dental Assistants are highly valuable members of the dental team and make significant contributions to the oral health of the public,” said Carolyn Breen, President of the American Dental Assistants Association.

According to the ADA, each year dentists take a week to honor Dental Assistants for their role on the dental team, recognizing their broad spectrum of duties and highlighting their often unheralded contribution to quality dental care. Dental Assistant Associations, dental assisting schools, and U.S. Army and Air Force dental clinics all join dental offices in honoring Dental Assistants during this designated week (ADA, 2014).

Please join us in celebrating our future Dental Assistants in March!

-Article submitted by Ms. Munoz, Massage Therapy Program Director
Arizona College has been a very enjoyable experience for me! I have never attended a more dedicated institution before in my life. The instructors and employees always made me feel like they were there for me. Everyone was always ready and willing to lend a helping hand to someone in need, even instructors that were not teaching my classes!

The Financial Aid Department and I created a plan that made it possible and affordable for me to attend college again, in which I appreciate.

Michelle Lamouroux in Career Services, is the major blessing to me. She placed me in an externship environment that was right for me...and after my externship was complete, they offered me employment!

All I can say over and over again, is Thanks Arizona College!

-Ms. Coleman, Health Information Graduate

Medical Records Technician Makes Forbes 2014 Best Jobs List!

Have you checked out our blog lately? If not, check it out, we have numerous healthcare related articles and more at blog.arizonacollege.edu.

Some exciting recent news is that Medical Records Technician made the Forbes 2014 Best Jobs List! Arizona College offers two programs that incorporate training for a career as a Medical Records Technician (Medical Billing and Coding): Health Information Specialist Diploma and Health Information Technology Degree.
Good Luck Externs!

Yolanda Andress
Medical Assisting

Amber Gillum
Dental Assisting

Briana Gutierrez
Medical Assisting

Kiara Moore
Pharmacy Technician

Jayne Kramer
Dental Assisting

Lakia Collins
Medical Assisting

Cheryl Satterfield
Health Information Technician

Kyle Jackson
Pharmacy Technician

*Please note: Due to limited space, students listed above are only a sample of students that have been placed on externship.*
Congratulations
Placed
Graduates!

Marisol Cortes
Dental Assisting
My Kids Dental Place

Michael Hernandez
Dental Assisting
Western Dental

John Miller
Pharmacy Technician
Banner Gateway Medical Center

Jasmine Pantaleon
Medical Assisting
Mom Docs

Carissa Coleman
Health Information Specialist
West Dermatology of AZ.

Yenisel Barzaga Cedeno
Pharmacy Technician
Walmart Pharmacy

Noemi Hinojos
Massage Therapy
Pain Stop Pain Management

*Please note: Due to limited space, graduates listed above are only a sample of graduates that have been placed in their related medical field for employment and does not include every placed graduate.
It’s been a busy few months for the Agency Department. Jan, Lemau, Agency Liaison has been traveling all over the state. In December she attended the 19 Tribal Nations Workforce Investment Board Annual Conference in Prescott where she had the opportunity to discuss Arizona College with the Counselors and Case Managers from many of Arizona’s Tribes.

From there she’s been on the road, traveling to places like Tuba City, Kayenta, Kykotsmovi, Chinle, Fort Defiance, San Carlos, Whiteriver, Parker and Yuma. That’s a lot of miles. Jan works directly with students from all of these areas and more who are making a big move, coming to the Phoenix area to attend our College. A special thanks to Jan for all your hard work!

**Veteran News,**

The Veteran Steering Committees are now established at both of our campuses. These meetings provide an opportunity to share ideas and resources as well as for veterans to provide feedback to the college from the veteran’s point of view. All veteran students are highly encouraged to attend these meetings, which are held every 5 weeks. For more information please contact Dennis Hobgood at dhobgood@arizonacollege.edu.

On March 4th and 7th we are pleased to welcome the Arizona Coalition for Military Families (ACMF) to our campuses. They will be providing a training program to our faculty and staff on the military culture, supportive services and ways to effectively engage with our service members, veterans and their families. A special thanks goes to the ACMF for their support our veterans at Arizona College. For more information about the Coalition visit arizonacoalition.org.

**Common Skills: Nursing & Parenting...**

If you are a parent, chances are you have already developed many of the skills and qualities that are important for those interested in a career in Nursing to have.

Like parenting, Nursing is both very demanding and incredibly rewarding. If you are a parent and are thinking about going back to school to become a Registered Nurse, you likely already possess some of the qualities that will help you to be successful in this field.

1. **A compassionate and caring nature.** As a parent, you no doubt have a caring nature and a great capacity for compassion, both of which are important characteristics to have in the Nursing field. Nurses are responsible for taking care of the sick and injured, as well as their families. Nursing often attracts those who are compassionate.

2. **Adaptability.** As a parent, chances are that no two days are the same; the same can be said for Nurses. No day is quite like the last, so it is important to be flexible and able to adapt quickly.

3. **Ability to think on your feet.** Nurses, like parents, need to make decisions quickly if they notice something is wrong with a patient. Not only do Nurses need to be quick thinkers, respond promptly to situations, as even seconds can mean the difference between life and death.

5. **Being hard working.** Like parenting, being a Registered Nurse is not a nine-to-five job. A Nurse’s job is never done, someone is always ill or injured and in need of care. It is rare for a medical workplace to be overstuffed, so being a hard worker is a very important trait.

Interested in becoming a Registered Nurse? Call us today at: 602-222-9300 to learn more about our Bachelor of Science in Nursing program!
The Pell Grant is considered by many to be the foundation of the federal government’s financial aid program. It helps more than 8 million students go to college yearly in the United States.

Unlike Stafford Loans, Pell Grants do not have to be repaid. Since Pell Grants are only awarded to students that are considered to have the greatest amount of financial need, they make a significant impact in the ability for those students who qualify, go to college.

The good news for 2014, is that the Pell Grant has been increased to $5,730 per academic year. Something else that is new for this year is that the Federal Government has decided to limit the eligibility of Pell Grants to have a lifetime limit of 6 academic years.

Some might think that this is plenty of time to complete a program, however, often student’s experience life situations that interrupt their education, which can result in having to repeat a course. These types of circumstances may quickly use up some of the Pell Grant, which is now time sensitive.

Although this change is a reduction in the Pell Grant that an individual can receive, 6 academic years is a generous amount of eligibility. Students who stay focused, persistent and refuse to let life’s challenges interrupt their education, will be in the best shape. Arizona College offers tutoring if you experience life’s challenges, so contact your Program Director today!

-Article submitted by Mr. Calhoun, Director of Regulatory Affairs

Getting to Know Your Mesa Admissions Team

Can you guess the individual in the Admissions Department for each of the following?

A. _____ Recently renovated a house and restored a pontoon boat.
B. _____ Ran for Michigan State Senator.
C. _____ Is an artist and enjoys voiceover projects in his/her spare time.
D. _____ Is training for the 2018 Biathlon.
E. _____ Has a fishing license in California.
F. _____ Was an All American Running Back in college.
G. _____ Was a Behavior Modification Specialist for autistic children.
H. _____ Raised two nephews and two sons.
I. _____ Was a Varsity soccer player, Homecoming Queen, and Student Body Vice President.

Answer Key: (a) James, (b) Cecilia, (c) Nikki, (d) Crystal, (e) JR, (f) Karri, (g) MaryAnn, (h) Kelsy

Spring Calendar of Events

3/13/14-Orientiation-Welcome New Students!
3/14/13, 12-1p, 5-6p-in Student Resource Room-Career Services Meet and Greet
3/16-22/14-Health Information Professions Week
3/17/14-Start Date, St. Patrick’s Day
3/19/14-Certified Nurses Day
3/29/14-Arizona College American Heart Association Walk
4/6-12/14-Healthcare Access Personnel Week
4/11/14-Externship Orientation
4/17/14-Orientation-Welcome New Students!
4/21/14-Start Date
5/14-High Blood Pressure Education Month
5/16/14-Externship Orientation
5/22/14-Orientation-Welcome New Students!
5/26/14-Memorial Day, College will be closed
5/27/14-Start Date
6/19/14-Externship Orientation
6/26/14-Orientation-Welcome New Students
6/30/14-Start Date

*CPR Classes and testing is offered weekly (every Friday) at Arizona College. Space is limited, so please contact the Front Desk for your reservation.
| Abbas Khayami, D.C.  
Better Health Solutions | Diann Tate, CPhT.  
Lead Tech  
CVS Pharmacy | Mary Kellar  
Southwest Regional Manager  
Schein Dental Special Markets |
|---|---|---|
| Amy Strunk, B.S., CPhT  
Cardinal Health | Heather Blythe, DA  
DC Dental | Zachary Wells, D.C. |
| Janine Jarava-Crump, LMT  
Arizona College Alumni | Pamela Milwood, LMT | Sharon Jaycox  
Arizona Department of Health Services |
| Anna Lassister, AZ. MGMA Certified  
Practice Manager  
Advanced Surgical Institute | Jothi Nadarajah D.M.D.  
Cholla Hills Family Dentistry | Sharon Richard, R.N., CPC.  
Manager, Revenue Cycle Quality Initiatives  
Banner Arizona Medical Clinic |
| Barbara Stackhouse, R.D.H., B.S.  
The Schuster Center for Professional Development | Kathy Donner  
HIV Prevention Manager  
Arizona Department of Health | Teresa D'Acquisto, A.A.  
Client Liaison Billing Manager  
Arizona Medical Billing |
| DeJarra Sims N.M.D.  
Synergy Health | Lalit Mansukhami, R.Ph., M.S.  
Director of Pharmacy  
John C. Lincoln Hospital | Wanda Darling  
Phlebotomist |

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