The Career Services Department is pleased to announce the addition of Target Pharmacies to their partnerships for Pharmacy Technician students. Heather Millward, our Career Services Coordinator who is responsible for assigning externship sites for the Pharmacy Technician program, remarked, “I am pleased at the multitude of locations and I feel this will give the students a welcomed opportunity to explore a retail pharmacy setting in a fast paced environment.”

Amrita Beirman, Target’s Director of Affiliation Agreements, provided her own outlook on providing Arizona College of Allied Health’s students a phenomenal opportunity. “Target’s Pharmacy Technician Internship Program offers technician students the opportunity for hands on learning. Our preceptors go through specialized education to ensure that our internships provide the highest quality of education. At Target, we strive to offer students a great educational experience by offering a culture of continuous learning, positive attitudes and exceptional teamwork.”

We welcome this new partnership with Target to assist us with offering another great externship location for our Pharmacy Technician students.

The President’s Corner,
by Nick Mansour

It’s hard to believe that we’re five months into 2011! Time is flying. Our school is flying too!

One area I’m very excited about is our Career Services Department. I know I wrote about them last time, but I can’t resist! Ricquia Ross, Heather Millward, Kodi Pareja, and Chris Lange are doing a great job helping our graduates with their job searches and assigning our students to externships.

Here’s a brief overview of the department. Ms. Ross is responsible for the Medical Assisting Diploma and Degree programs. Ms. Millward heads our Health Information programs as well as Dental Assisting, Pharmacy Technician, and Massage Therapy. The vast majority of Ms. Pareja’s time is spent networking with health care practitioners around the Phoenix area finding job openings and interview opportunities for our graduates. She also handles the Phlebotomy program. Mr. Lange recently joined us as Director of Career Services – please welcome him.

If you’re a student, make sure to introduce yourself to the Career Services team, especially the person handling your program. The earlier the better! In fact, get to know them well, have them review your resume, attend their job interview sessions. They are here to help you. And it’s never too early to plan for your career after you graduate.

The fruits of the Department’s labor are showing. More of our graduates found jobs last month (April) than any previous month. I really appreciate and look forward to Mr. Lange’s e-mails announcing each one who has successfully found employment for herself or himself.

And, we’re adding more partners as providers of externships. One example is NextCare, one of the largest urgent care providers in the area, whom we added to our network last month. NextCare is excited to be working with us and we have externs on site already. We can always use more, so if you know of great hospitals, doctors’ and dentists’ offices, clinics, pharmacies or spas, please let us know – and make sure to let them know about our school and our students!

We’re not resting on our laurels. We’re going to continuing to work hard putting our students in exciting externships where they learn and helping our graduates find the jobs they want.

Thanks to everyone (not just the Career Services department!) for your hard work. I appreciate the passion you bring to our College and your desire to teach and help our students!

Sincerely,

Nick Mansour

President
The Clock is Ticking!

Article Submitted by: Amanda Hughs-Ray, Dental Assisting Student

Excitement, anticipation, nervousness, and really...apprehension over not knowing what to expect. Heading out on externship after being trained for a career path is an emotional roller coaster, but now I'm almost ready. The classroom portion of my training is almost complete, so “The Clock Is Ticking.” My time is here.

I am a student at Arizona College of Allied Health in the Dental Assisting Program. Completing an education is an accomplishment for anyone. This is one of the craziest times in the economic history of our county. So many American people are finding themselves in a situation that requires them to re-tool and to start over in so many ways. The loss of jobs is still rising and we are working to re-educate ourselves in order to have a decent paying career. Now the clock is ticking.

After 6 months of an accelerated program, I have come to realize that I have many feelings about taking the next step, “extern”. The anticipation of working on a real patient is exciting and a little scary. But I know I can do this. I know I’ve been trained the right way. I know I will be able to contribute in any work environment that I will find because I’m confident of my knowledge and abilities. I know I will be successful. And the clock is ticking.

Externship is another step in my education and will help prepare me for my new career. But it will give me real life experience that I need. It will give me more confidence for the next step. And the clock is ticking.

I’m looking forward to my new career. I want to do well. I want to make a difference. I want to be the best. The clock is ticking.

My time at Arizona College of Allied Health has been rewarding and fulfilling. I know I can represent the college and my instructors in a professional and positive way. I know I can do this. It’s time.

Agency Department Updates

The Agency Department has grown this year by two. Our new additions are Jessica Bowles and Demetrius Ford.

Jessica will be working as our High School Liaison and will be out marketing and presenting our programs to high schools throughout the year. She has great personality and loves working with the young adults and helping them find their career interests.

Demetrius will be working as our Agency Liaison. He will be out marketing to all the different Government and Tribal Agencies that have student assistance programs.

His first week on the job he joined me at the 32nd National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference held in Scottsdale Arizona (see picture above). At this event we were able to talk to and present to hundreds of tribal education counselors from all over the United States, and learn the different ways they assist students.

It should was a valuable event for the Agency Department and Arizona College. I am looking forward to seeing great things from our two new additions this year.

-Article submitted by Rod Fowble, Director of Agency and Business Development.
Arizona College of Allied Health supported the “Race for Hope for All Cancers” cause and attended this event held on Sunday, April 30th, 2011 at the Westgate Civic Center in Glendale, AZ.

This is the 3rd annual event and its fund-raising efforts help support the Arizona Myeloma Network (AZMN), an organization that provides free education for those who are experiencing or have family going through cancer treatment. The goal of the race is to provide hope, courage and support for anyone whose life has been touched by cancer, while raising money for the organization’s free public cancer education programs throughout Arizona.

The event consisted of a 5k walk or run with over 400 participants. Students of the College as well as staff from Admissions and Career Services Departments, participated in the event. Arizona College had a display table and distributed fun syringe writing pens, water bottles to thirsty participants and informative brochures.

Several participants stopped by to talk to the Arizona College team and expressed their interest in going back to school to begin their journey in the Health Care field.
Good Luck Externs!

Christina Tinguely
Phlebotomy
Dr. Ruttinger

Jessica Atkinson
Dental Assisting
Sun West Dental

Thomas Rizzo
Health Information Technology
VA Hospital

Wanda Bates
Medical Assisting
Parkview Internal Medicine

Nathaniel Underwood
Medical Assisting
John C. Lincoln

Tuesday Douglas
Medical Assisting
Cigna Urgent Care

Trisha Hammonds
Medical Assisting
Obstetrix-Phoenix Perinatal Associates

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

Heather Robbins  
Dental Assisting  
Westbrook Village Dental

David Benavidez  
Medical Assisting  
Sonoran Heart

Denise Gutierrez  
Medical Assisting  
Advanced Desert Dermatology

Georgina Castaneda  
Phlebotomy  
Banner Boswell

Gilberto Miro  
Phlebotomy  
Banner Thunderbird Hospital

Ashley Wiley  
Dental Assisting  
Katsur Dental

Fabiola Sahagun  
Health Information Specialist  
Therapro Physical Therapy Services

Vivian Fitch  
Health Information Technology  
Apria Healthcare

Michael Patterson  
Medical Assisting  
AZ Pain Specialist

Michelle Johnson  
Pharmacy Technician  
Phoenix Children’s Hospital

Catherine Hernandez  
Medical Assisting  
Cigna Healthcare

*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.
Everyone, regardless of stability to the onlooker, has moments where life’s challenges seem barely manageable. In order to truly appreciate the tools we are given, we must step back and take a look at what we have.

Too often, many of us as Americans are unable to fully appreciate resources available to us because we don’t know any different. Walking through the halls of the campus, I often wonder what it would be like for our students if we lived in a different country. Would they have the same structure of learning? Would they have the ability to work in mock settings? Would they have access to up-to-date medical materials?

To learn more, I enlisted the experience of one of our Admissions Counselors, Ms. Leyla Boric. Originally from Bosnia, Leyla has lived in both countries at different points in her life. She was also an English teacher for a period of time in Bosnia. Her many life experiences in the United States and abroad has given her a unique perspective on the numerous advantages students have in this country, realized or unrealized, in the midst of what can feel like an impossible climb.

Q: What were some of the first observations you made about schools here in U.S., in comparison?

A: In Bosnia, classes are huge… the student to teacher ratio is so large that students simply do not have the ability to learn through doing as much as watching.

Q: What about regulatory standards? In order to renew our accreditation we have to show that our school is following very specific guidelines. Does the same hold true with Bosnian schools?

A: While I’d like to say yes, sanitation for example is expensive and for most institutions these measures are unaffordable. The U.S. is able to maintain these standards tenfold.

Q: What about resources. Our students are able to get their hands on equipment that is similar to what they’ll see it in the workplace. How does this compare to schools in Bosnia?

A: Technology is a definite highlight of U.S. education. The advances happen here, in the student’s backyard! Consistent upgrades provide ideal education for students and faculty alike. The hands on training prepares the student for their real world experiences.

Q: Interesting. Things do happen here, so what about once the student graduates...

A: In Europe most medical conferences are conducted in English. You can be the top doctor in your community but if you don’t know English you’re at a loss. In addition, there is equal opportunity for jobs in the U.S. In Bosnia it’s all who you know and networking. You’re out of luck without connections.

Food for thought… At Arizona College, we are a multi-racial, multi-cultural community with people from all walks of life. What brings us together is that each student has come to this common place for the same reason: to create a better reality. Are you ready to create your own?

- Article submitted by Ms. Katie Rausch, Director of Admissions.
On Friday, May 20th 2011, Arizona College staff attended the APSA Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix. The theme of the event was, “Putting Arizona to Work: The Faces of Success.”

It was an exciting day filled with guest speakers, informative breakout sessions, a tasty breakfast, lunch and awards ceremony. It also was bitter sweet for Arizona College’s Community Relations Director, Donna Pettigrew, as this was her last event as President. Ms. Pettigrew has served as the APSA President for the past year and the editor of the APSA-Lute News. She gave an inspiring opening speech for the conference.

It was a nice time for the Arizona College staff representing all departments to come together. We reflected on how each one of us take a part in providing the environment for students to succeed and realize their dream. Along with the support of staff and faculty, we provide the tools necessary. At the end of their journey at Arizona College, students reach the ultimate goal of employment in their field of study.

It was a busy year for the APSA including attending Hill Day, on September 29th, 2010 in Washington D.C., to support the theme, “My Education, My Job, My Choice.”

A special thanks to the APSA Executive Director, Fred Lockhart, and Executive Assistant, Debbie Rivera for providing a wonderful and informative event.

Did you know that Arizona College offers open lab for current Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy students that would like some additional assistance with their lab skills? Our open lab is monitored by one of our Medical Assisting Instructors. The open lab hours are Monday-Thursday, from 12:15p-1p for morning students, and Monday-Thursday from 5p-6p for evening students.

All students who would like to participate must complete an orientation which includes a lecture and a short quiz. Students must pass with an 80% minimum to participate. The open lab orientation is Mondays at 12:15p for morning students and 5:15p for evening students.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ms. Simon, Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy Program Director.

**Immunization Reminder:**

All students must submit proof of Immunizations to Ms. Campos in the Student Services Department. This documentation is required prior to the end of the students initial 10 week term at Arizona College and is required prior to externship and graduation.

- If you cannot locate your immunizations, contact the high school you attended and ask for a copy of the records.
- If you need updated immunizations and do not have insurance and need to be referred, please contact Ms. Campos in the Student Services Department for a list of facilities that partner with Arizona College to provide these services to students at a discounted fee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter!
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Abbas Khayami, D.C.</td>
<td>Diann Tate, CPhT.</td>
<td>Mary Kellar</td>
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<td>Better Health Solutions</td>
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<td>Southwest Regional Manager</td>
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<td>Schein Dental Special Markets</td>
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