

**Bert’s Alerts (April 22, 2005 issue)**

**ACC Mission Statement**

To provide an accessible, responsive learning environment that facilitates the achievement of educational, professional and personal goals by our students and other members of our communities in an atmosphere that embraces academic excellence, diversity and innovation.

- **NCA:** The NCA Higher Learning Commission self-study process is in high gear at ACC! Teams throughout the campus are busy soliciting the information needed to respond to the steering committee questions distributed early in the month. The information gathered will form the basis of the first draft of our self-study. If you are contacted to provide information, please respond quickly as the teams are on a tight timeline.

- **Did you know that?**

  **Eight of Colorado’s thirteen community colleges are located in rural areas and provide over 1100 jobs in those communities.**

- **Important reminder:** All grant proposals must go through the Office of College Development.

- Congratulations go out to math faculty who are making “calculated” moves in the arena of professional excellence! Jeff Berg has been elected Chair of the Executive Committee and Karen Walters has been elected Vice Chair for the Rocky Mountain section of the Mathematical Association of America. Also, adjunct math instructor Jim Lowdermilk recently presented a talk on “The Opening Date of the Egyptian Civil Calendar” to the American Research Center in Egypt conference. Jim has done extensive research in the area of early Egyptian mathematics.

- ACC’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa will be participating in the organization’s Project Graduation theme of “Feed a Body, Feed a Mind.” A collection container for donations of nonperishable foods and K-6 picture/reading books will be located at the PTK coat check room on Graduation day. Book donations will be going to Family Star EHS Montessori Infant/Parent Center and food donations will go to the Sharing Closet at ACC’s Child Development Center. Please assist our honor students in this service project.

- The Writers Studio will host a Writers Rendezvous on Wednesday, May 4 at 7 p.m. in the Waring Theater. The central event will be the release of Progenitor 2005. For more details, see the press release under News & Events on our web site.

- Terry Harrison is demonstrating his penchant for “cutting edge” projects. On April 29, Terry will be assisting students at the Colorado Center for the Blind with a science project funded by Qwest Foundation. He and the Center’s Youth Coordinator will be teaching over a dozen youth to dissect sharks. You can watch the action on Channel 9 with Greg Moss on that date.
Learning Connection (aka Scott’s Spot)

- Andrea Wygle’s new title is Learning Support Services Coordinator. Andrea is currently working on curriculum and program renewal systems with CCCS. We are hopeful that our electronic curriculum process will be operational beginning in the fall semester. Program renewals have been a time-consuming focus for several of our faculty/chairs lately. Andrea has been working with individual faculty on navigating this process and getting programs to the final approval step. Formalized training with representatives from the System office will begin in the fall semester. Andrea still coordinates the Academic Standards committee meetings, works on those omnipresent “special projects,” and trouble-shoots learning support-related problems. Call Andrea at X5975 or visit her in A2055 (Campus Box 13) with any concerns relating to the areas mentioned.

- The third cornerstone of the Learning College model is “Shared Vision.” The concept is defined by Peter M. Senge in *The Fifth Discipline: The Art & Practice of The Learning Organization* this way: “A shared vision is not an idea. It is not even an important idea such as freedom. It is, rather, a force in people’s hearts, a force of impressive power. It may be inspired by an idea, but once it goes further – if it is compelling enough to acquire the support of more than one person – then it is no longer an abstraction. It is palpable. Few, if any, forces in human affairs are as powerful as shared vision.” May the force be with us!

  
  *ACC’s three values: Honesty, Integrity and Collegiality.*

  
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  “*How many a man has dated a new era in his life from the reading of a book.*”
  -Henry David Thoreau